

ROYAL COMMISSION
ON THE
ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL
MONUMENTS OF SCOTLAND



THE OUTER HEBRIDES, SKYE
AND THE SMALL ISLES

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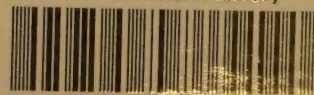
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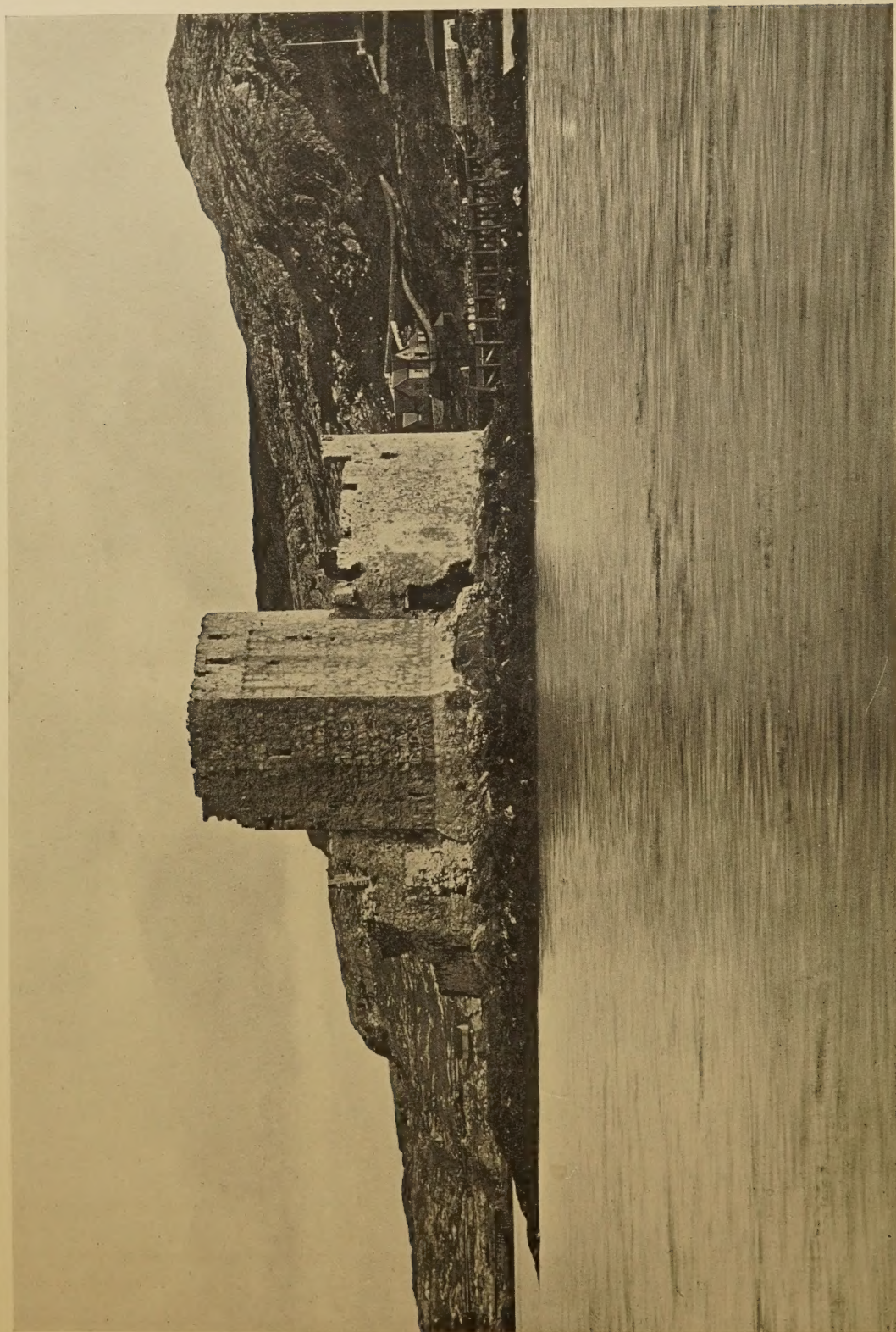


FIG. 1.—Kielessinul Castle, Castlebay (No. 439).

(From photo by Messrs Valentine & Sons, Ltd., Dundee.)
Frontispiece.



THE ROYAL COMMISSION
ON ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL
MONUMENTS & CONSTRUCTIONS
OF SCOTLAND

NINTH REPORT
WITH INVENTORY OF MONUMENTS
AND CONSTRUCTIONS IN THE OUTER
HEBRIDES, SKYE AND THE SMALL ISLES



EDINBURGH

1928

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GEORGE R. I.

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the seas, King, Defender of the Faith, to Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Cousin and Counsellor Ronald Craufurd, Viscount Novar, Knight Grand Cross of Our Most Distinguished Order of Saint Michael and Saint George, Doctor of Laws, —Greeting!

WHEREAS it pleased His late Majesty by Letters Patent under the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and made use of in place of the Great Seal of Scotland bearing date the seventh day of February 1908 to appoint Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Counsellor Sir Herbert Eustace Maxwell, Baronet, together with the several persons therein mentioned to be Commissioners to make an Inventory of the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Constructions connected with or illustrative of the contemporary culture, civilisation and conditions of life of the people in Scotland from the earliest times to the year 1707.

AND WHEREAS a vacancy has occurred amongst the Commissioners so appointed.

NOW KNOW YE that We reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge, discretion and ability have nominated, constituted and appointed and do by these Presents nominate, constitute and appoint you the said Ronald Craufurd, Viscount Novar to be one of the Commissioners for the purposes of the said Inquiry in addition to and together with the other Commissioners named in the said Letters Patent.

Given at Our Court at St James's the twenty-sixth day of January 1925,
in the Fifteenth Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

JOHN GILMOUR.

GEORGE R.I.

GEORGE THE FIFTH, by the Grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas, King, Defender of the Faith, to Our Trusty and Well-beloved James Curle, Esquire, Writer to the Signet, Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, Member of Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland,—Greeting !

WHEREAS it pleased His late Majesty by Letters Patent under the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and made use of in place of the Great Seal of Scotland bearing the date the seventh day of February 1908 to appoint Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Counsellor Sir Herbert Eustace Maxwell, Baronet, together with the several persons therein mentioned to be Commissioners to make an Inventory of the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Constructions connected with or illustrative of the contemporary culture, civilisation and conditions of life of the people in Scotland from the earliest times to the year 1707.

AND WHEREAS a vacancy has occurred amongst the Commissioners so appointed.

NOW KNOW YE that We reposing great trust and confidence in your knowledge, discretion and ability have nominated, constituted and appointed and do by these Presents nominate, constitute and appoint you the said James Curle to be one of the Commissioners for the purposes of the said Inquiry in addition to and together with the other Commissioners named in the said Letters Patent.

Given at Our Court at St James's the twenty-sixth day of January 1925,
in the Fifteenth Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command,

JOHN GILMOUR.

NINTH REPORT

OF THE

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS OF SCOTLAND

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR MAJESTY,—

We, Your Majesty's Commissioners, appointed to make an Inventory of the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Constructions connected with or illustrative of the contemporary culture, civilisation and conditions of life of the people in Scotland from the earliest times to the year 1707, and to specify those which seem most worthy of preservation, humbly present to Your Majesty this our Ninth Report.

Appended to the Report is a list of the monuments and constructions in the Outer Hebrides, Skye and the Small Isles, which, in the opinion of Your Commissioners, seem most worthy of preservation and in need of protection. In the case of this district we have found it inexpedient to follow our usual practice of dividing the list into two groups.

Your Commissioners have to express their thanks for the courtesy and co-operation which they have experienced at the hands of the owners of historical monuments in the Islands, and particularly for special services rendered by the Earl of Dunmore, the Countess Vincent Baillet de Latour, Major Kemble of Knock, Skye, the late Erskine Beveridge, LL.D., C. G. Mackenzie, Esq., Procurator-Fiscal, Stornoway, the Rev. Malcolm Macleod, formerly resident at Broadford, Skye, and G. M. Fraser, Esq., bank agent, Portree. In addition they have to thank the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland and the representatives of the late Erskine Beveridge, LL.D., for the use of certain blocks as illustrations.

The actual work of the survey, owing to special circumstances, has extended over an unusual length of time. It was begun in 1914, the year in which the War broke out, and was continued in the summer following, but was suspended in 1916 and remained in abeyance for four years. During 1921 and the following years work had necessarily to be much restricted so that only small sections could be done from time to time, and not till the summer of 1925 had the whole of the ground been covered.

The broken and difficult character of the area under investigation added another handicap. Travelling was subject to delays of various kinds. Weather, too, in these regions is at once an influential and an unstable factor. The fact that so many ancient monuments exist on islets in lochs also imposed peculiar limitations. In some cases a partially submerged causeway could be used, though only at the cost of a wetting; very rarely a boat was available; more often the remains were inaccessible without special provision, and observations consequently had to be made from the shore.

In the islands archaic structures of all kinds, while very numerous, are for the most part in a seriously dilapidated condition. Even where present-day remoteness has preserved them from human interference, time and tempest have been effective destroyers. Certain erections, however, still rank among the best preserved of their class—an undisturbed ‘long cairn’ in Skye, near Kilmarie, Strathaird, the standing stones of Callanish, the broch of Carloway, the church of St Clement at Rodil. It is satisfactory to note that the last three of these monuments are now under the care of Your Majesty’s Commissioners of Works. There are others, such as remains of brochs, a type of structure peculiar to Scotland, which well deserve special consideration and the fuller exposure, at the hands of an expert archæologist, of such features as survive.

There is evidence that private parties landing from yachts have not scrupled to interfere with ancient monuments and even to remove such as were portable. In one case at least the proprietor of an island found it necessary to take action. Your Commissioners hope that the publicity now given to such activities may lead to their cessation.

Almost all the prehistoric structures recorded in the Inventory were visited and described by Mr J. Graham Callander, now Director of the National Museum of Antiquities, and Your Commissioners in this connection would take the opportunity of expressing their appreciation of Mr Callander’s skill, care and unflagging energy in carrying through this part of the work.

For their knowledge of the remains upon St Kilda Your Commissioners are indebted to the kindness of Captain Patrick Grant, late of the Indian Army, who happened to be visiting the island. The report on structures in the Flannain Isles is based on information and photographs supplied by Mr Cadger, District Superintendent of Lighthouses, through the friendly co-operation of Mr. J. Dick Peddie, Secretary to the Northern Lighthouse Board. The visit of our staff to the remote island of North Rona was arranged by the Fishery Board through Mr Jones, Chairman of the Board. Here and at the Flannain Isles a landing cannot be guaranteed even in comparatively fine weather. The conditions happened to be favourable for a brief visit to Rona, but the neighbouring island of Sula Skeir had to be omitted.

As to the spelling of names in the islands, Your Commissioners have adhered, for obvious reasons, to the practice of accepting the forms on the maps of the Ordnance Survey on the scale of six inches to a mile.

Since the issue of our last Report, the long vacant post of Archæologist on the staff has been filled by the appointment of Mr J. M. Corrie. More rapid progress is thus ensured in the collection of material.

Your Commissioners welcome the appointment of Viscount Novar, K.T., G.C.M.G., and Mr James Curle, LL.D., to fill vacancies in their number.

HERBERT MAXWELL, *Chairman.*

G. BALDWIN BROWN.

THOMAS H. BRYCE.

THOMAS ROSS.

ALEXR. O. CURLE.

GEO. MACDONALD.

NOVAR.

JAMES CURLE.

W. MACKAY MACKENZIE, *Secretary.*

EDINBURGH, 12th July 1927.

LIST OF ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS AND CONSTRUCTIONS

WHICH THE COMMISSIONERS DEEM MOST WORTHY OF PRESERVATION
AND IN NEED OF PROTECTION

IN THE

OUTER HEBRIDES, SKYE AND THE SMALL ISLES

ISLAND	MONUMENTS
Lewis and Harris	Teampull nan Cro' Naomh (No. 6). Teampull Eoin, Bragor (No. 2). Eye Church, Monumental Effigy and Cross Slab (No. 43). Chapel, Rudh' an Teampuill, Toe Head (No. 108). Teampull, Tigh a Bheannaich (No. 63). Broch, Dun Borve (No. 11). Broch, Loch an Duna, Bragor (No. 10). Broch, Dun Cromore (No. 38). Dun, Loch an Duin, Taransay (No. 117). Chambered Cairn, Carn a' Mharc, Gress (No. 55). Chambered Cairn, Coir Fhinn, Nisabost (No. 131). Chambered Cairn, Coll Farm (No. 53). Stone Circle and Cairn, Steinacleit, Shader (No. 17). Stone Circle, Garynahine (No. 93). Standing Stone, Cladh Maolrithe, Berneray (No. 133). Standing Stone, Clach Mhic Leoid, Nisabost (No. 135). Standing Stone, Clach an Trushal (No. 16). Standing Stone, Clach an Tursa, Carloway (No. 87).
North Rona	Church, North Rona (No. 9).
North Uist	Cille-pheadair Cross (No. 164). Teampull na Trionaid (No. 160). Broch, Dun Torcuill (No. 172). Dun Ban, Loch Caravat (No. 215). Dun, Loch Hunder (No. 173). Long Chambered Cairn, Barpa, Carinish (No. 220). Chambered Cairn, Barpa Langass (No. 224).
Benbecula	Teampull Chaluim Chille, Balivanich (No. 339). Chambered Cairn, Stiaraval (No. 351).
South Uist	Church and Chapels, Howmore (No. 367). Dun Raouill (No. 380). Chambered Cairn, Barp, Reineval (No. 389). Standing Stone, An Carra, Beinn a' Charra (No. 407). Earth-houses, Scalavat and Usinish (Nos. 394, 395, 396).

THE OUTER HEBRIDES, SKYE AND THE SMALL ISLES

ISLAND	MONUMENTS
Barra	Cille-bharra (No. 436). Kiessimul Castle (No. 439). Galleried Dun, Barra Head Lighthouse (No. 450). Chambered Cairn, Dun Bharpa, Borge (No. 457).
Skye	Annait (No. 499). Church, Teampull and Effigies, Skeabost (No. 616). Cross-shaft and Carved Slabs (four), Kilmoruy (No. 474). Effigy and Carved Slab, Kilmuir Churchyard (Nos. 536 and 537). Carved Slab, Congan's Chapel (No. 501). Carved Slabs (three), Dunvegan Church (No. 500). Carved Slabs, Trumpan (No. 502). Monastery, Loch Chaluim Chille (No. 535). Brochel Castle (No. 574). Dun Scaich Castle (No. 599). Duntulm Castle (No. 538). Broch, Dun Beag (No. 479). Broch, Dun Colbost (No. 506). Broch, Dun Gearymore (No. 511). Broch, Dun Sleadaile (No. 477). Broch, Dun Suledale (No. 618). Galleried Dun, Dunan an Aisilidh (No. 576). Galleried Dun, Dun Grugaig (No. 651). Galleried Dun, Dun Liath (No. 541). Galleried Dun, Dun Ringill (No. 650). Galleried Dun, Rudh' an Dunain (No. 483). Dun, near Loch Baravaig (No. 606). Dun Beag, Staffin Bay (No. 545). Dun Cruinn (No. 621). Dun Gerashader (No. 577). Dun Skudiburgh (No. 542). Cairn, Beinn na Caillich (No. 658). Carn Liath, Kensaleyre (No. 632). Long Cairn, Carn Liath (No. 550). Long Cairn, Cnocan nan Gobhar (No. 662). Symbol Stone, Clach Ard, Tote (No. 640).
Canna	Cashel Sgor nam Ban-naomha (No. 679).

Note.—The following are under the charge of H.M. Office of Works and not included in the foregoing list :—

ISLAND	MONUMENTS
Lewis and Harris	St. Clement's Church, Rodil (No. 111). Megaliths and Circles, Callanish (Nos. 89 and 91). Broch, Dun Carloway (No. 68).
Pabbay	Symbol Stone (No. 438).
Skye	Broch, Dun Fiadhairt (Iardhard) (No. 508).
Canna	Cross A'Chill (No. 678).

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ISLAND	PARISH	FIGURE	NAME	PAGE IN INVENTORY
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ABBREVIATED TITLES OF REFERENCES

<i>Archaeol. Scot.</i> or <i>Arch. Scot.</i>	.	.	<i>Archaeologia Scotica</i> or Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.
<i>Cal. Papal Reg.</i>	.	.	<i>Calendar of entries in the Papal Registers.</i>
<i>Coll. de Reb. Alb.</i>	.	.	<i>Collectanea de Rebus Albanicis</i> (Iona Club), 1847.
<i>Early Chr. Mon.</i>	.	.	<i>The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland</i> , by J. Romilly Allen, F.S.A., and Joseph Anderson, LL.D.
Martin	.	.	<i>A Description of the Western Islands of Scotland</i> , circa 1695, by Martin Martin.*
Monro or Dean Monro	.	.	<i>Description of the Western Isles of Scotland</i> by Sir Donald Monro, High Dean of the Isles, 1549.*
<i>New Stat. Acct.</i>	.	.	<i>The New Statistical Account of Scotland</i> , Vol. XIV. (1845).
<i>Orig. Paroch.</i>	.	.	<i>Origines Parochiales.</i>
<i>Proc. R.S. Ant. Ireland</i>	.	.	<i>Proceedings of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland.</i>
<i>Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot. or P.S.A.S.</i>	.	.	<i>Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.</i>
<i>Reg. Mag. Sig. or R.M.S.</i>	.	.	<i>Registrum Magni Sigilli Regum Scotorum</i> , Register of the Great Seal of Scotland.
<i>Reg. Sec. Sig.</i>	.	.	<i>Registrum Secreti Sigilli Regum Scotorum</i> , Register of the Privy Seal of Scotland.
S.H.S.	.	.	Scottish History Society.
<i>Stat. Acct.</i>	.	.	<i>Statistical Account of Scotland</i> , 1791-99.

* Paged references are to the edition of 1884.

TOPOGRAPHICAL NOTE

The islands are divided into or grouped in parishes as follows :—

ISLAND	PARISH	PAGE
Lewis and Harris	Barvas	I
	Lochs	11
	Stornoway	12
	Uig	17
	Harris	30
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South Uist, with Benbecula and adjoining Islands	Barra	123
Barra, with Vatersay, Sandray, etc.	Bracadale	138
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Canna, Rum, Eigg, Muck		

Lewis is in the county of Ross and Cromarty. Harris and the islands following are in the county of Inverness.

The term *Dùn* is popularly given to any type of defensive construction and occasionally to a monument not of that character. Sometimes it indicates merely an isolated stack of rock, the summit of which, as in the case of Dùn Mór, Canna, may be quite inaccessible. In the Inventory the term, as the title of a sub-category, is applied to such defensive constructions as are not otherwise classified.

INTRODUCTION

TO

INVENTORY OF ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS AND CONSTRUCTIONS IN THE OUTER HEBRIDES, SKYE AND THE SMALL ISLES.

HISTORICAL INTRODUCTION.

I.

GEOLOGICALLY the Outer and the Inner Hebrides present a marked contrast. The chain of islands stretching from Barra Head to the Butt of Lewis, often spoken of as the Long Island, is formed of primeval gneiss, and is regarded as "the oldest known fragment of Europe."¹ Its scenery is characteristic. As far as the Sound of Harris the shore on the east side rises for the most part in cliff and skerry from the sea, its line broken perhaps by some winding fjord or exposed bay, with a setting of dark hills behind, while on the west lie broad stretches of light meadow-land or *machair*, fringed by the great heaps of white shell-sand which the Atlantic breezes have piled up. Beyond the Sound there towers a tangled mass of wild and barren mountains, nearly 2700 feet high, and so rugged as to afford but scanty foothold for human habitation. In Lewis the landscape changes again. The northern end of the Long Island is comparatively level, consisting mainly of a bleak expanse of undulating country, the hard under-surface of which, where not buried beneath peat, is flecked with innumerable tarns. Towards the coast, on east and west alike, occasional patches of *machair* reappear.

No less characteristic is the scenery of the Inner Hebrides, including Mull. These belong to a much more recent epoch in the story of the earth. They are largely composed of Tertiary volcanic rocks. In many places, and notably in Skye, huge plateaux of basalt rise in successive terraces, whose flat, green tops form a picturesque setting to the sombre and precipitous front which offers itself to the ceaseless beating of the waves. At various points the basalt has been disrupted by the intrusion of later igneous masses, such as those which have produced the peculiar outlines of the Cuillins and the peaks of Rum. There is none of the fertility so frequently promoted by volcanic deposit. It is true that the slopes and table-lands provide tolerable grazing for sheep and cattle. But the glaciers of the Ice Age have swept the glens and moors clear of all accumulated detritus, while the moistness of the subsequent climate has promoted a rapid growth of peat, which protects the rocks from further disintegration. Only where a lining of boulder clay has been left in the bottoms of the broader valleys is cultivation possible. Yet Skye, at least, carried

¹ Geikie, *The Scenery of Scotland*, p. 125.

a serviceable growth of timber even within historic times. St Columba had an adventure with a wild boar in the woods in that island,¹ and in 1549 Dean Monro reports "maney woods" there.² At the best, however, none of the islands that have been described can ever have had any very obvious attraction for settlers. In the circumstances the number of ancient monuments which they contain must be regarded as remarkable. We may find an explanation in the words which are used of Iceland in the *Laxdale Saga* (chap. ii.): "There was good land to be had there, and no need to pay money for it; there was plenty of whale and salmon and other fishing all the year round." Besides, economic betterment has never been the sole inducement to migration, and "a wanderer is man from his birth."

It has been made plain that the modern distinction between Outer and Inner Hebrides is geologically sound. It is also topographically convenient. But it finds no reflection in their early history. Their emergence into the light of written record is hardly earlier than their occupation by the Vikings in the ninth century. The identity of "the silent, vanished races," by whose hands the oldest monuments were reared, can only be matter for conjecture. Even that of the people whom the Norsemen subdued or dispossessed is not entirely certain. Nothing can be inferred from the name *Hæbudes* or *Hebudes* applied to the islands by Pliny in the first century of our era, or from *Αἰβοῦδαι*, which Ptolemy used in the second. The modern form Hebrides is a "ghost-name," arising from an error in transcribing as *ri* the *u* in the penultimate of Pliny's *Hebudes*. There are, however, some vestiges of evidence as to Skye. Adamnan in his life of St Columba tells of the saint's visit to the island, and of how there was brought to him an aged native chief, whose name was Artbranan. Columba baptized him, after giving him the necessary instruction through an interpreter. The old man died on the same day, and was buried by his companions under a cairn of stones by the side of a river which was still called by the inhabitants (*ab accolis*), when Adamnan wrote (c. A.D. 695), *Dobur Artbranan*. But *dobur* is a Celtic word for "water," and the personal name Artbranan is also Celtic in form. This may indicate that, while the natives of Skye spoke a form of Celtic, it was not the Gaelic of Columba, since an interpreter was necessary. Bede, a younger contemporary of Adamnan, states that "all the nations and provinces" of Britain were divided into "four tongues," viz. that of the Britons, that of the Picts, that of the Scots and that of the English.³ Eliminating the Welsh language of the Britons, the Gaelic of the Scots and the English language, we are left with that of the Picts as being spoken in Skye. In this connection it is interesting to note the presence in the island of at least three slabs (Nos. 498, 528, 640) carved with symbols familiar on similar stones in the northern and eastern regions of the mainland, the ancient territory of the Picts. There is another (No. 582) in the adjoining island of Raasay. A possible inference from these facts is that Skye formed part of Pictland and that its inhabitants spoke a form of Celtic which was not Gaelic. The same may quite well be true of the Outer Isles.

The Scandinavian domination lasted for some four hundred and fifty years, and throughout that period the Western Isles as a whole were regarded as a homogeneous group, known among the Celtic people of the mainland as Innsegall, that is, "the Isles of the Strangers or Foreigners."⁴ The Norsemen, on the other hand, called them *Sudreyar* or "the Southern Islands," as opposed to Orkney and Shetland,

¹ Adamnan, lib. ii. cap. 26.

² *Description of the Western Isles*, p. 37.

³ *Hist. Eccles.*, III. vi.

⁴ "Ynchegallye," *Act. Parl. Scot.*, vol. i. p. 459.

which they designated *Nordreyar* or "the Northern Islands." It is worth recalling that the first of these old Norse names is retained to this day in the title of the Bishop of Sodor and Man, the islesmen having been termed in ecclesiastical Latin *Sodorenses*. From the end of the eleventh century the Sudreys were under the suzerainty of the rulers of Norway, as part of the kingdom of Man and the Isles. Shortly after the middle of the twelfth century a notable breach in the Manx connection was effected through Somerled MacGillibride, who came into prominence as "regulus" of Argyll about A.D. 1150.

This Somerled was probably of mixed Celtic and Norse descent. His second wife was Effrica, daughter of Olaf the Red, King of Man. After Olaf's death the Manxmen rebelled against his successor. Somerled joined forces with them, invaded Man in 1156 and compelled the surrender to himself of the Western Isles south of Ardnamurchan Point. Henceforward the Sudreys were split up into two groups, the Northern Isles and the Southern Isles,¹ both (it would seem) still nominally attached to Norway. It is the islands north of Ardnamurchan that are dealt with in the present volume. Somerled had never been on good terms with Malcolm IV., King of Scots. We know nothing definite as to the grounds of the final quarrel. Malcolm may have wished to enforce a claim to the overlordship of Argyll, or the other may have been the aggressor. What is certain is that Somerled sailed up the Clyde with a strong fleet in 1164 and landed near Renfrew, where he and his son Gillecolm were killed in an encounter with the king's troops. As time passed, the hold of Norway over this part of Scotland grew steadily weaker. The end, however, was not to come for almost a hundred years. It was only after King Hacon had suffered crushing disaster at Largs in 1263 that the whole of the Sudreys were finally incorporated in the Scottish realm.

Somerled's possessions had been divided among his sons. Early in the thirteenth century, however, the island of Bute, which at that time belonged to his grandson Roderick, founder of the clan of Macruari, was successfully claimed by Alexander Stewart, whose wife was a great-grand-daughter of Somerled by another line of descent. These were troublous days, and Roderick had fallen out of royal favour. In the general settlement that followed the definite establishment of Scottish supremacy over the Sudreys (1266), the Stewarts were confirmed in the ownership of Bute, but at the same time, by way of compensation, the dispossessed Macruaris were infeft as feudal lords of the islands north of Ardnamurchan, except Skye, Lewis and Harris, which were bestowed upon Ferquhard Macintagart, Earl of Ross, as a reward for his services in the struggle against Norway. In 1337 John of Islay, who had by that time acquired Lewis, although the Earl of Ross still held Skye, married Amie (also known as Anna and Algive), sister of Reginald Macruari, Lord of Uist, Benbecula, Barra, etc. Nine years later Reginald was murdered, and the whole of his estates passed into Amie's hands, or rather into those of her husband. Not long afterwards, for reason good or not so good, John "by consent of his council and familiar friends" rid himself of his wife and obtained in 1350 a papal dispensation enabling him to marry Margaret, eldest daughter of Robert Stewart, who succeeded to the throne as Robert II. in 1370-71. It is worth mentioning that, despite her

¹ This fresh division of the islands has been the source of no small confusion. Some writers persistently speak of the Western Isles north of Ardnamurchan as the Nordreys. As Skene pointed out in his *Celtic Scotland*, i. p. 345, there is no justification for this nomenclature. The true Nordreys are, and always have been, Orkney and Shetland.

repudiation, Amie figures largely in traditional history under the name of Algive, and is there credited with having built the Church of the Trinity (Teampull na Trionaid) in North Uist,¹ although the existing structure is of much later date than her time. To her also are attributed the Castle of Borve and the Parish Church of St Columba in Benbecula, the precise site of the latter being now unknown, as well as an oratory on the island of Grimsay, North Uist.

Notwithstanding the "divorce," John did not relax his grasp of the Macruari territory, the acquisition of which had enabled him to assume the proud title of Lord of the Isles (*Dominus Insularum*).² But he appears to have felt that his position was none too secure. This we can gather from the fact that on his father-in-law's accession—or, in other words, more than twenty years after his own second marriage—he took steps to have it made safe; the lands which his first wife had inherited, including Uist, Rum, Eigg, St Kilda ("Hyrt"), with their pertinents, and the mainland districts of Moidart, Arisaig, Morar and Knoydart, were confirmed to him in 1371-72 by a Royal Charter in which these lands were specified as having been formerly possessed by Allan, son of Roderick, grandfather of Amie Macruari, while Amie's rights were not referred to at all. It is fair to add that John speedily made amends. Before twelve months had elapsed, another Crown Charter (January 1st, 1372-73) confirmed his "donation" to Reginald or Ranald, one of his sons by his first marriage, of practically the whole of the Macruari heritage—extensive mainland properties, as well as Eigg, Rum, Uist with the castle of "Vynvawle," Barra, and "Hert" or St Kilda, with all the small islands pertaining to these. In this context Uist clearly embraces North and South Uist and Benbecula. Dean Monro refers to North Uist as "Kenehache of Ywist, that is in English the north head of Ywst."³ It may be noted that until early in the nineteenth century the greater portion of these lands, apart from North Uist and Barra, remained in the possession of Reginald's descendants, known as the Clan Ranald.

At some uncertain date North Uist came into the hands of Godfrey, a brother of Ranald and founder of the Clan Gorrie or *Sìol Gorrie*, and his descendants continued to exercise some sort of supremacy in the island for about one hundred years, when they seem to have sunk to the level of mere tenants.⁴ How Godfrey obtained a foothold on his brother's lands, we do not know. But the fact remains that in a "donation" of 1389, confirming the Church of the Trinity and other properties in North Uist to the Abbey of Inchaffray, he describes himself as "Godfrey of the Isles, Lord of Uist," while the document itself was sealed at the castle of "Elane Tyrym" in Moidart, which had been specifically conferred on Ranald by the charter of 1372-73. There is less dubiety as to what happened about Barra. In 1427 Alexander, third Lord of the Isles, granted the whole island, together with the Boisdale ("Bægastallis") lands in South Uist, to Gillean Macneill ("Gilleowan Rodrici Murchardi MakNeill"). The Macneills were still in possession when Dean Monro wrote in 1549. But early in the seventeenth century their then chief suffered forfeiture for piracy, and his estates were bestowed on Sir Roderick Mackenzie of Kintail

¹ MS. History of the Macdonalds (cf. *Collectanea de Rebus Albanicis*, p. 298), by Hugh Macdonald of Sleat, who wrote in the latter half of the seventeenth century.

² The title appears for the first time in a document of 1354 (Hailes, *Annals*, 2nd ed., iii. 381).

³ *Description of the Western Isles*, p. 49.

⁴ Erskine Beveridge, *North Uist: Its Archaeology and Topography* (1911), p. 29.

(1621). Nevertheless, the old tradition remained unbroken. Mackenzie took over Macneill as his tenant.

The fifteenth century witnessed frequent changes. Thus in 1469 we find John, fourth Lord of the Isles, conveying to his illegitimate brother Hugh the lands of North Uist and Benbecula with a large slice of South Uist. This Hugh already owned Sleat in Skye, and became founder (and eponym) of the Clan Huisdein or Clan Donald of the North as distinguished from the Clan Donald of Islay or the South.¹ Six years later John's own title and estates were held forfeit to the Crown as the penalty of treason. In 1493 the forfeiture was made perpetual, the Lordship of the Isles being subsequently (1540) annexed to the Crown. The new charters which were granted by James IV. throw less light than might be expected on the manner in which the islands were distributed among the different clans, for it is notorious that in these turbulent regions neither then nor at other times did the grant of a charter invariably lead to possession by the grantee. There were, we may be sure, many parallel cases to that of the island of Raasay, whereof Dean Monro remarks in 1549 that it belonged "to McGyllychallan of Raasay be the sword and to the bishope of the iles by heritage." McGhilliechalluim was the clan name for the head of the Raasay Macleods—a branch of the *Siol Torquil* or Macleods of Lewis—and at the end of the eighteenth century the Macleods were still in Raasay, where Dr Johnson was entertained in 1773 by the lineal descendant of the ancient family.

Taking the charters as they are, however, we find that in 1495 Hugh Macdonald of Sleat and Macneill of Barra and Boisdale were confirmed in the original grants they had received from the Lords of the Isles, although within a short time the Sleat lands had become the subject of fresh complications which need not be entered upon here. Again, in 1498, Alexander Macleod of Dunvegan was similarly secured in the possession of the territory hereditarily held by his father from the Lord of the Isles, including Duirinish, Minginish and Bracadale, all on the west side of Skye, and with these the lands "commonly called Ardmanach in Herag of Lewis"—that is, Harris. Macleod of Dunvegan and Harris also owned St. Kilda, as his descendants still do. In 1549, writing of it under its original name of "Hirta," Dean Monro says that it "pertains of auld to McCloyd of Herray." It has already been indicated that Lewis was in the hands of another branch of the Clan Macleod, the *Siol Torquil*. With them it remained till 1610, when it passed into the possession of Mackenzie of Kintail.

The district of Skye lying between Sleat, which belonged to the Macdonalds, and Minginish, which belonged to the Macleods, was formerly known as Strathswardal ("sward-dale") or Strathordell, a name which is preserved in that of the parish of Strath. It had been handed over by a Lord of the Isles to the Mackinnons, who hailed from Mull. A quaint account of this transaction appears in a "*Description of the Isles of Scotland*," written between 1577 and 1595: "Ane pairt of this Ile of Sky callit Strathvardeill pertenis to ane Laird callit McKynvin, given to him be McConneill for to be judge and decide all questionnis and debaitts that happenis to fall betwin pairties throw playing at cairtis or dyce or sic uther pastime, and will raise auct score men."² Eigg was Clanranald land.³ Rum, "all hillis and waist glennis," had been given to the Macleans of Coll, but by the middle of the sixteenth century

¹ *The Clan Donald* (Inverness: vol. i., 1896; vol. ii., 1900; vol. iii., 1904) discusses in great detail many of the questions of family history and of ownership that are only touched on lightly, if at all, in this Introduction.

² Skene, *Celtic Scotland*, iii. p. 432.

³ *Coll. de Reb. Alb.*, p. 125.

it, too, was "possesst and in the hands of Clan Rannald."¹ We have seen that at the same period Raasay belonged "to the bishope of the isles by heritage." It would seem to have been by no means the only small island which one or other of the feudal lords had put in pledge for his spiritual welfare. In 1695 Martin² tells us that Sandray, Mingulay and the rest of the group south of Barra were commonly called "the Bishop's Isles," because they were held of the bishop. Muck was also at one time bishop's land, while Canna belonged to the Abbey of Iona, although Pennant found it (1772) in the ownership of Clanranald. Canna, by the way, with its sheltered harbour and central situation, was specially well adapted for occupation by a sea-faring population. As late as the end of the eighteenth century its harbour was "well known and much frequented."³ In this connection it is probably significant that it has yielded so many traces of Norse graves of pagan times (cf. No. 686).

II.

Persisting as it did for over four and a half centuries, the Norse occupation was an episode of the highest importance in the history of the Western Islands. To this the modern place-names bear emphatic witness. Among the very few which we know to be older than the advent of the invaders are Skye and Eigg, which are obviously the *Scia* and *Egea* of Adamnan's *Vita Columbæ*, written about the end of the seventh century. The great majority of the remainder are Scandinavian. Thus, the Norse *nes* or "nose" frequently appears in the designation of a headland, as in Duirinish, Waternish and Trotternish, all in the north of Skye; the southern and more level part of the island derives its name of Sleat from *slettr*, "smooth," in modern Norse *slet*. Gaelic orthography represents the sound of *v* by *bh*, which serves to disguise the Norse *fjall*, a hill, in Suainabhal, Mealasbhal, Cracabhall and so on, while such a compound as Grimshader, meaning Grim's "dwelling" or "pasture," enshrines the Norse *setr* or *sætr* in its Gaelic form *seadair*. Similarly, Melbost, Shawbost, Crossbost and the like are from *bólstaðr* or *bústaðr*, "a homestead." But the commonest example of all is *ey* or "island," which figures as a termination (*-a*, *-ay*, or in Gaelic *-aidh*) in countless names like Scalpay, Berneray, Raasay, Taransay and so forth.⁴

When we turn to the monuments, we are confronted by a very different picture. The number of these that we can associate with the Norsemen is surprisingly small. A specially interesting object is the solitary rune-inscribed slab known in the Hebrides. That it should be unique is to be accounted for by the fact that the erection of sculptured stones was not a native Scandinavian custom, but one which the settlers learned through their contact with the Celts. It was found in the churchyard at Kilbar, Barra, and is now in the National Museum of Antiquities. A full description of it is given in the Inventory (No. 436). The runes cover the whole of the back, while the front is occupied by a Celtic cross, the design of which betrays no obvious trace of Scandinavian influence. It has generally been assumed that the ornament and the inscription are contemporary.⁵ Owing to

¹ Monro, *Description of the Isles*, p. 36.

² *Description of the Western Islands of Scotland* (ed. 1884), p. 98.

³ *Statistical Account of Scotland*, xvii. (1796) p. 278

⁴ On the whole subject see Macbain, *Place Names of the Highlands and Islands of Scotland* (1922), pp. 67 ff.

⁵ So, for instance, by Stephens, when the slab was first described (*Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, xv. (1881) pp. 33 ff.).

weathering, it is impossible to be certain as to this. But, if they are so, the presence of the Christian emblem precludes us from assigning the combination to a date earlier than the eleventh century, when the Norsemen abandoned paganism.

As will be seen from the list given below (pp. liv ff.), the personal relics are few and scattered. If such memorials of the Scandinavian period are sadly to seek in the Western Isles, structural remains are in still more evil case. It is true that attempts have been made to claim the brochs for the Norsemen; but the claim has long since been disproved. Nearly half a century ago Dr Joseph Anderson subjected it to critical examination.¹ He pointed out that no brochs had been found in Norway or in any of the Viking colonies except Northern Scotland; that the Norsemen of the Viking period were essentially builders in wood,² and no edifices of dry-built stone masonry were known in Norway either of that period or of preceding ages, while edifices of dry-built stone were characteristic of the Celtic or Early Christian period of Scotland and Ireland; and, finally, that the general *facies* of the relics obtained from the brochs, notably in Caithness and Orkney, agreed completely with that of the remains from other Scottish dwellings of that period, such as earth-houses and caves, and was clearly pre-Norse. The conclusion which Dr Anderson thus reached, largely from negative evidence, was fully confirmed in 1891, when in the course of excavations undertaken in a mounded enclosure at Torwoodlee, Selkirkshire, the foundations of a broch were laid bare. The relics from the floor included numerous fragments of Samian ware, mortaria and other varieties of Romano-British pottery, also glass. A single coin—a denarius of Vespasian—was recovered. The relics indicated that the broch was probably occupied as early as the end of the first century A.D. The plan further made it clear that by the beginning of our era the peculiar features of construction which are characteristic of the broch were fully developed.³

The brochs, then, are not Scandinavian. Probably the same remark applies to the whole of the miscellaneous class of structures known as *duns*, all of which, with a single exception, are dry-built. In their design some of them reproduce features that are characteristic of the broch proper. Obviously these, like the brochs themselves, must be earlier than the days of the Vikings. But there is another type of *dun* which is just as obviously later. Its nucleus is a natural island. This is encircled by a wall, built along and following the sinuosities of the water's edge, except that at one point it is recessed so as to form an inlet, evidently constructed to receive a boat, as the sides are slightly curved for the purpose. Within the enclosure is a building, or sometimes more than one building, of late domestic pattern, oblong in shape and usually with rounded corners. So far as concerns the area dealt with in the present Inventory,

¹ 'Notes on the Structure of the Brochs,' in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, xii. (1878) pp. 314 ff.

² The literary evidence puts this beyond doubt. Thus, about the end of the ninth century Orlygr, a Norseman, who had been brought up by Patrick, Bishop of the Isles (*biskupi hinum Helga i Sudureyem*), went as a missionary to Iceland, and received from the bishop, among other things, wood for building and consecrated earth to place under the corner posts of the church which he built and dedicated to S. Columba (*Islands Landnamabok*, part i., cap. 12). Frequent references of the same import occur in the Sagas, e.g. *Burnt Njal*, lxxvi.; *Laxdale Saga*, xxiv., xxix., lxx., lxxiv.; *Eyrbyggja Saga*, iv.; *Orkneyinga Saga*, xxxiii.

³ 'Notes on two Brochs recently discovered at Bow, Midlothian and Torwoodlee, Selkirkshire,' by James Curle, *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. xxvi. (1892) pp. 68 ff. Cf. also *Third Report and Inventory (County of Caithness)*, pp. xxxiii ff.

duns of the type just described are confined to the two Uists and Barra. All of them appear to belong to the period that is roughly termed mediæval. That is, they were probably erected after the annexation of the Western Isles to the Scottish realm and the re-establishment of Gaelic control. The names attached to some of them may commemorate their former owners. Dun Aonais (No. 213), for instance, is said to have been the dwelling of Aonghas Fionn, son of Donald Herrach, who was murdered in Dun Scolpaig about A.D. 1506.¹ Another example is Dun Mhic Raouill (No. 205), which means "fort of the son of Ranald."

It must not, however, be too readily taken for granted that the use of a personal appellation is a sure index to the actual date of construction. Thus, Dun Torcuill (No. 172), in North Uist, like Dun Ringill (No. 650), in Skye, is of much greater antiquity than the name of its *quondam* owner might seem to imply; both are clearly prehistoric structures, though they were subsequently adapted to serve as mediæval dwellings. We may cite two cases in which the corroborative evidence of date appears to be stronger. It will be remembered that the charter of 1372-73, confirming the bestowal of the Macruari heritage upon Amie's son Reginald,² made specific mention of the island of Uist with the castle of "Vynvawle" (*insula de Huwyst cum castro de Vynvawle*). This is usually interpreted as referring to the castle of Borge (No. 342) in Benbecula. But Borge, or at all events Borge as we see it to-day, is later than the fourteenth century, while the equation of "Vynvawle" with "Benbecula," if not philologically impossible, is certainly far from simple.³ It is much easier to believe that it indicates the height now known as Uineval. If it does, we may identify the "castle" with the *dun* locally known as Dun Ban (No. 204) in Loch Huna, which lies at the foot of the hill, since the term "castle" at this period still had as its essential significance the idea of a defensive enclosure containing a residence. The identification would point to a mediæval date for Dun Ban. The evidence in the second case is quite different in kind. Another Dun Ban (No. 215), this time on an islet in Loch Caravat, presents all the ordinary characteristics of the type we are discussing, but is unique in that it is the only *dun* in the Western Isles which is built with shell mortar. Had it not been of late date, it would hardly have been left to enjoy the distinction alone.

There remain the numerous *duns* which we can neither link with the brochs nor assign to the middle ages. These, however, present no features which would justify us in classing them as Scandinavian. In fact, there is nothing to distinguish them from analogous structures whose occurrence outside of the Norwegian sphere of influence in Scotland proclaims their Celtic origin. We can hardly escape the conclusion that there is no building of stone in the Hebrides that can be definitely attributed to the Norse immigrants.⁴ The Vikings and their descendants were apparently too conservative to depart from their native practice of always employing wood.⁵ There

¹ Erskine Beveridge, *North Uist*, p. 224.

² See *supra* p. xx.

³ Benbecula, which appears in Dean Monro as Benvaigha, means 'the Height of the Ford.' The Gaelic is *Beinn na bhFaoghla*, from *faodhail*, 'a ford,' itself borrowed from the Norse *vaiðill*, 'a shallow or ford.' Cf. Macbain, *Place Names*, etc., p. 169. In the *Scotichr*, lib. ii. cap. x., the form is Benwevil.

⁴ See to the same effect Capt. Thomas in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. vii. (1866-8) pp. 178-9; and for a similar conclusion with respect to Sutherland, *Inventory of Monuments* for that county, p. xvi.

⁵ It has been suggested that they may have used low foundations of stone. Even that is doubtful. Mr Stolpe, excavating the site of the Swedish town at Bjorko, founded in the eighth century and destroyed in the eleventh, discovered no trace of such foundations. He obtained evidence, however, which has been confirmed from other parts of Scandinavia, that the houses of that period were built of wood or wattles and lined with clay, the interstices between the timbers being filled with moss. See *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, xii. (1878) p. 322, footnote.

are two possible exceptions—Dun Channa (No. 681) and the probably drytone wall which crossed the approach from a gully to the upper part of the Scur of Eigg (No. 689). Each of these presents some general resemblance to the single example of the hill-fort class which is to be found in Iceland, namely Borgarvirki ("burg-work"), in Vididal on the north coast. There the summit of an isolated basaltic hill, 800 feet high, assumes the form of a deep ear-shaped enclosure to which entrance is had by a gap. The great natural rampart of rock has been strengthened in places with dry-built masonry and a heavy drystone wall has been built across the gap. Within the enclosure is a well, while the ruins of two rectangular dwellings stand side by side against the rock with some small round cairns on the open surface in front.¹

We may now review very briefly the different types of prehistoric structure in the Western Isles, so far as they remain intelligible. The phases of culture which we associate with the use of stone and of bronze, respectively, have left abundant traces in the shape of the abodes and memorials of the dead—the cairns and the stone circles. Among the habitations of the living, precedence in time should probably be given to the oldest of the fortified enclosures that crown so many hill-tops and headlands. But these enclosures belong to various periods, and without excavation it is not possible to determine with certainty the precise stage of civilization at which the dwellers in any particular one of them had arrived. The most that we can do is to say, quite generally, that each must have served as the residence of a small community, tilling a few patches of arable land, but relying in the main on a larger stretch of ground as pasture for their cattle or sheep. The earth-houses and the brochs, on the other hand, and therefore the *duns* with broch-like affinities, can be definitely assigned to the Early Iron Age; the relics they have yielded prove that they were in regular use during the Roman occupation of Southern Britain. The question as to their exact purpose is very much more obscure.

It has, for instance, been suggested that the brochs stand for a form of social organisation analogous to that to which the mediæval *duns* and the castle proper bear witness, that each was the headquarters of a chief, whether native or foreign, who held the commonalty in subjection and controlled the surrounding district. The theory, however, receives no support from their situation or from their relation to other inhabited sites. As we have pointed out elsewhere,² they are seldom found in the neighbourhood of the remains of the ordinary dwellings of the people as far as now recognisable. Rather they appear, as a rule, to stand apart, sometimes singly and sometimes in groups. Again, as it was admirably put long ago by Dr Joseph Anderson, they "are eminently and peculiarly structures of defence, and not of aggression." The comparative series traced on p. xxxvii of this Introduction suggests that the typical broch may possibly have developed from the galleried *dun*, under the pressure of some growing menace which made places of refuge increasingly necessary. Certainly, the small number of relics which, in most cases, have been recovered by systematic excavation (though the number of such excavations is limited) points to an occupancy either brief or intermittent; and, while the accommodation for permanent residence would have been extremely

¹ *A Pilgrimage to the Saga-steads of Iceland*, by W. G. Collingwood and Jon Stefansson, pp. 154-57. Haakon Shetelig, the Norwegian archaeologist, holds that in the Iceland case the Norse were following Celtic examples. (*Préhistoire de la Norvège* (1926), p. 195.)

² *Second Report and Inventory (County of Sutherland)*, p. xxi.

cramped, the galleries and courtyard might have afforded temporary shelter to considerable numbers.¹

The idea underlying the broch, then, was strictly defensive. At the same time it has to be admitted that the occurrence of sporadic examples of this characteristically northern type of structure as far to the south as Berwickshire appears to indicate that it was capable of playing a useful part in what can hardly have been anything but a movement of aggression. On the whole, it would seem that, for a final and conclusive interpretation of the riddle which these strange towers have to offer, we must be content to wait until more examples of the class have been carefully and methodically explored, and until there has been a systematic survey of the manner in which they are distributed throughout the districts in which they occur. The first essential for such a survey is a complete collection of the material. From that point of view our Inventory has its own contribution to make towards a solution of the problem.

GENERAL INTRODUCTION.

I. ARCHÆOLOGICAL REMAINS.

There is abundant evidence that the Outer Hebrides and Skye carried a considerable population in prehistoric times. Although the isolated objects that have been recovered are not numerous, they appear to indicate the normal series of phases of culture when stone, bronze and iron were successively used in the manufacture of weapons and implements, and there still survive in a much dilapidated condition many monuments which may be assigned tentatively to one or other of these three phases. The terms Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age are undoubtedly convenient as marking the general advance of the human race towards civilisation. They are, however, untrustworthy guides to chronology in a remote district whose inhabitants lagged so far behind in that advance as did those of the Western Isles. Where, therefore, these terms are used in this Report, they are to be understood as relating not to any specific date but merely to a particular stage of culture.

Hitherto no remains of dwellings attributable to the Stone Age have been identified in the Isles, nor have relics characteristic of the period been found in such numbers as in certain parts of the mainland. It must be remembered, however, that much of the ground available for human occupation is covered with deep peat, beneath which it is certain that many traces of antiquity, structural and other, lie hidden. Indeed, this may be the case even in cultivated districts, where there is a layer of peat beneath the soil. However that may be, the relics actually found are so few that we have been able to print a list as an appendix to this Introduction. The classification there adopted is naturally based on the material out of which the implements or weapons are fashioned. But it must not be supposed that the arrangement necessarily coincides with the corresponding phases of culture; it is well

¹ That cattle were taken inside, as has sometimes been supposed, is extremely unlikely; the narrowness of the entrances must have been accentuated by the door-checks, and it is possible that (as has been demonstrated in the case of Dun Troddan in Glen Beag) the small inner court was reduced in size by internal constructions of one kind or another (*Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, lv. (1921) pp. 83 ff.).

known, for instance, that the use of stone axes and flint arrowheads, examples of both of which types have been found in many districts, survived the introduction of bronze. Special attention may be drawn to the fine axe, measuring $9\frac{5}{8}$ inches in length, which was picked up near Callanish, Lewis, and to the hoard of six axes found lying close together near the edge of a small loch in North Uist. Two arrowheads of white quartz from Lewis also deserve notice, one being from Barvas and the other from Corishader. Other classes of flint implements are extremely rare, but six scrapers were found along with other objects of the same material at Eilean an Tighe, North Uist, while five others were discovered lying within a radius of a few feet in the sandy area to the north-west of Daliburgh, South Uist. We come now to the monuments themselves.

SEPULCHRAL MONUMENTS.

Chambered Cairns.—Our surveys of Caithness and Sutherland made it clear that a type of cairn, believed to be the earliest of the Scottish monuments and known as the chambered cairn, was widely spread. It owes its name to the fact that within the mass of stones of which it is formed there lies at least one chamber or vault, built for the purpose of receiving more than a single burial and approached by a long, narrow passage. Two main categories can be distinguished. While some are of elongated shape, and narrower at one end than at the other, some are approximately round, and in the latter case the marginal setting of the cairn, where such a feature is still preserved, assumes the aspect of a circular kerb or of a circle of stones, either of boulder or of pillar form.

The long cairn is generally recognised as the older of the two. Excavation in cairns of this class has never revealed, in the case of the primary interment, any relics that could be recognised as belonging to the Bronze Age, and it has therefore been concluded that such monuments should always be associated with the Age of Stone. Elsewhere these long cairns, where they have retained their original outline, have frequently a recessed area at one or both ends, a peculiarity which has led to their being designated "horned cairns." But, although long chambered cairns occur in Skye and in all the larger islands of the Outer Hebrides, there are only three which appear to have been "horned," one in Skye and two in North Uist. The greater part of the first of these, Carn Liath, Kilmuir (No. 550), has been removed, but the outline is still plainly marked. Barpa nam Feannag in North Uist (No. 238) is better preserved, its main structure being fairly complete, despite a disturbance of the burial chamber and the entrance passage. Barpa, Carinish (No. 220), which has been encroached upon by late shielings and enclosures, has suffered more seriously. Its chamber has been quite dismantled, but has left traces of its original presence in a number of large stones lying at the broad end. It should be added that the indications of its having belonged to the "horned" variety are somewhat slight.

The chambered cairn of circular form is generally believed to belong to a later phase than the long cairn, for there is evidence to show that some, at any rate, of this class were constructed at a period of transition between the earlier and the later culture. Examples are numerous in the Hebrides, although many have been so thoroughly plundered that the mound has been entirely removed and only a few of the megaliths of the chamber remain. Skye can show at least seven, Lewis seven, Harris one, Berneray, Harris, one, North Uist sixteen, Benbecula two, South



FIG. 2.—Distribution Map of Cairns, Stone Circles and Standing Stones.

Uist six and Barra three. The best preserved of the Skye examples are Carn Liath, Kensaleyre (No. 632) and one of those near Vatten (No. 524). The former measures 80 feet in diameter and 18 feet in height; the latter 90 feet and 20 feet. As these two cairns have never been opened, their classification is to some extent conjectural, but it is highly probable that they contain chambers, since their size corresponds very closely to that of other circular cairns which are known to be chambered. A short cist has been exposed halfway up the side of Carn Liath, showing that it has been utilised for a secondary interment.

If we set aside the two apparently undisturbed examples in Skye, there is only one of the Hebridean chambered cairns which still has its chamber complete, Barpa Langass in North Uist (No. 224). Here the funeral vault is placed, not exactly in the centre of the mound, but slightly towards one side, a position which it seems to have occupied in many of the cairns that are now dilapidated. So extensive and so widespread is the dilapidation alike of the long cairns and of the round cairns that it is impossible to give any clear account of the character of the chambers. Two broad varieties can be noted. The more common is an oval or circular compartment, built of large slabs set on end and roofed with enormous flags, the interstices being filled with smaller stones. The second variety, which has a more restricted area of distribution, recalls in some respects the segmented chambered cairns found in the south-west of Scotland, where the vault is a long, trough-like structure, divided into compartments by upright slabs placed transversely across it. As a rule, the Hebridean specimens seem to have no stone partitions, and to consist simply of a long, narrow chamber, which might almost be termed a long cist, or even an *allée couverte*. At the same time it must be borne in mind that they are here described as they appear without any exploratory digging, and that it is therefore not impossible that, as has proved to be the case in other localities, the apparent absence of partitions is due merely to the fact that the upper edges of the septal slabs do not rise above the existing level of the floor.

As examples of the latter class of which we have been speaking, we may refer to the cairns in the islands of Berneray, Harris (No. 126) and Boreray, North Uist (No. 217), at Geirisclett (No. 237), Uamh Airidh nam Faoch (No. 227), Dun na Carnaich, West Ford (No. 231) and South Clettraval (No. 233), all in North Uist, and at Sig More, South Uist (No. 385). At Geirisclett the chamber is divided into two parts by a transverse slab set on edge but projecting only very slightly above the floor. All of these have been of very massive construction. One of the cairns on Craonaval, North Uist (No. 223), now very much reduced in size, has a chamber which, though of slighter build, bears perhaps a closer resemblance to the segmented vault of the cairns in the south-west mainland. Lying on the eastern edge of a stone circle, with its main access pointing towards the centre, it contains a long vault divided into an outer and an inner compartment by a passage or portal formed of two upright slabs. About the middle of the cairn there is a second and smaller chamber, rectangular in shape and formed of four slabs set on edge. Beyond the margin of the cairn, on the side opposite to the long segmented chamber, is a standing stone, which we may presume to have originally stood on the periphery, but there is no trace of a complete marginal setting of pillars.

Nearly every one of the Hebridean round cairns, however, has had a fringe of large stones or boulders set either on edge or on end in a manner that suggests the

stone circle in process of evolution. Although nothing of the kind is visible at Carn Liath, Kensaleyre, it may possibly lie concealed just within the edge of the mound. On the other hand, in the case of another Skye cairn, one of those at Vatten (No. 524), the marginal setting is at many points so closely packed as almost to present the appearance of a kerb. Much more commonly it takes the form of large stones, planted in the mound at irregular intervals within a few feet of the outer margin and rising from 1 to 3 or 4 feet above the surface of their bed. In the Barp on the northern slope of Reineval, South Uist (No. 389) several of the stones resemble pillars and project as much as 3 to 7 feet. A further stage of development appears in Dun Bharpa, Barra (No. 457), where some of the marginal stones rise from a depth of several feet below the ground to a height of more than 6 feet above. Yet another stage is indicated at Sig More, South Uist. There, although the cairn has been denuded, most of the marginal stones have been left lying just where they were overthrown, and their position makes it possible that originally they may have stood a little way outside the edge of the mound. At Guala na h-Imrich (No. 232) and Leacach an Tigh Chloiche, Uineval (No. 228), again, North Uist provides two examples of the circle extending beyond the boundary of the cairn, although in the latter case the mound has seemingly impinged upon the eastern arc of the surrounding ring. Finally, within the famous circle of stones at Callanish, Lewis, is a small chambered cairn which occupies the space between the eastern arc and the central pillar stones. This is one of the very smallest of the true chambered cairns, although on the shores of Loch Eynort, Skye, there is a mound, measuring now only 27 feet in diameter, which has within it a tiny but clearly defined beehive-shaped structure.

Some special features call for remark. Firstly, four of the North Uist cairns have an outlying pillar stone. The one at Craonaval has already been referred to. The others are the cairns at Uineval (No. 228), West Ford (Nos. 231, 252) and Tigh Cloiche Marrogh (Nos. 225, 242). In the last case the pillar stone stands at a distance of 110 yards, but in the others it is quite close. At Uineval and Craonaval, where the cairns lie within stone circles, the detached pillar is outside the ring, of which it plainly formed no part. At Steinacleit, Shader, Lewis (No. 17) there is a peculiar interest in the relation of a cairn and standing stone enclosed by a setting of small stones, with a large standing stone 540 yards distant to the north. Secondly, where a cairn has been erected on a hillside, the site has sometimes been levelled to make way for it, as at Barp Langass (No. 224), North Uist, Carn a'Mharc, Lewis (No. 55) and Barp Glac Hukarvat, South Uist (No. 390). Lastly, it is a significant circumstance that at Geirisclett, North Uist (No. 237) and at Sig More, South Uist (No. 385) there are two cairns on the seashore which have been built on solid rock beyond what is to-day high-water mark, whence it may be inferred that the level of the land has altered considerably since the date of their erection. In the chamber of each, when it was visited, there was seaweed, washed in when the tide had been specially high.

The tale of relics found in the Hebridean cairns is lamentably brief. It is not surprising that it should be so in the case of monuments which have been heedlessly despoiled merely in order to provide building materials; but, as the chamber has often been opened by more or less responsible persons whose sole interest was to see whether it contained anything of value, it is remarkable that the specimens whereof we are able to record the survival should be so very few. A stone bracer or wrist-

guard from a chambered cairn near Broadford, Skye, a barbed and stemmed arrow-head, two scrapers and several splinters of flint, as well as a few pieces of pottery, from Barpa Langass, North Uist, and a few shards from the cairn at Geirisclett, North Uist, are preserved in the National Museum of Antiquities.

Short Cist Burials.—It is at least possible that the culture and the customs associated with the chambered cairn persisted in the remote north for a time, perhaps for a long time, after the bronze phase had established itself farther south.

A systematic exploration of the chambered cairns of the Hebrides must, therefore, be carried out before the exact archæological horizon of these monuments can be authoritatively defined. But elsewhere throughout Scotland the character of the burial customs



FIG. 3.—Pin, Spear-head and Sword of Bronze from Sleat, Skye.

underwent a change about the period when the knowledge and use of bronze were introduced. Instead of great cairns with large, chambered vaults for multiple and successive burials, small graves or cists of a size intended to contain a single body, placed in a constricted position, became the fashion. These cists, called

“short cists,” to distinguish them from the long slab-like graves of a later period, were in their typical form composed of four slabs set upright with a fifth or covering slab, often of large dimensions, to serve the purpose of a lid. Sometimes the cists were merely buried beneath the surface. Often, however, cairns of stones were heaped above them. These cairns vary greatly in size. Occasionally they are no more than 15 feet in diameter, but sometimes they rival the chambered cairns in magnitude. At Collessie in Fife, to cite an instance from another area, there is one which has a diameter of

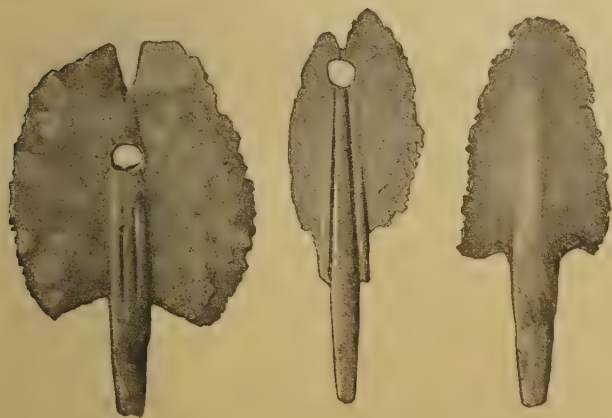


FIG. 4.—Bronze Razors from Adabrock, Lewis.

as much as 120 feet. Cairns containing the islands than might have been expected. This does not necessarily imply that, to begin with, they were fewer in number than the chambered cairns. It may merely mean that, as they were of smaller dimensions and consisted of stones of a more easily handled size, they have been more completely obliterated in mediæval and recent times. However that may be, we observed only three certain examples, all of them in Skye—two at Inver Aulavaig, only 18 feet and 15 feet respectively in diameter, both now denuded, though showing the cists still well-preserved (Nos. 610 and 611), and one near Kensaleyre, similar but surrounded by a carefully built kerb (No 631). It is possible that the apparently intact oval cairn at Kilmarie, Sleat (No. 662) should be added to the number, but without excavation it is impossible to say so confidently.

Small Cairns.—Both in the Highlands and in the Lowlands of Scotland groups of small cairns associated with hut circles have often been recorded, usually at an elevation which varies, according to the locality, from 700 to 900 or 1000 feet above sea level. Nothing of the kind will be found in the following Inventory. In the islands ground so high is quite unsuitable for permanent occupation. At the same time there is always the possibility that similar monuments may once have existed lower down—they occur in Aberdeenshire at a height of between 200 and 300 feet—and may now be concealed beneath the peat. In this connection mention may be made of a group of small cairns a little above the 200 feet contour-line in the island of Raasay (No. 579). While no hut circles could be detected in their neighbourhood, it was observed that there was a thick growth of peat over the surrounding hillside and even over the cairns themselves. In Glen Osdale, near Dunvegan, again, several mounds, having a certain resemblance to small cairns, were noted in a peat bog. On being probed to a depth of 6 feet, they proved to consist of stone, but only excavation can determine whether they are really cairns or merely natural formations.

Standing Stones.—Circles of standing stones can be seen in Lewis, Harris, North Uist, Benbecula and Skye, but there are none now visible in the lower part of the Long Island. So far as can be judged from the surviving examples, the majority of those in the Hebrides have been concentrated near the head of Loch Roag on the west side of Lewis, the site of the famous circle of Callanish. This great stone setting, though occupying less space than the circles at Stennis in Orkney and Avebury in England, ranks second in importance to Stonehenge among the Bronze Age monuments of Britain. Within four miles of it are seven of the eleven circles still left in Lewis. Three of the eleven, including Callanish, seem to have enclosed a chambered cairn within their bounds. One of them, that at Steinacleit near Shader (No. 17), appears further to have been provided with an outer setting of single stones enclosing an elliptical area, in the south-western segment of which the circle is placed (Fig. 29). At Garrabost (No. 54) five blocks of stone and a dislodged cover slab, strongly suggestive of a dolmen, lie near the centre, evidently representing the ruins of a megalithic chambered cairn. Two other circles, one near Garynahine (No. 93) and one near Callanish (No. 90), contain small ruined cairns, the original character of which can no longer be determined with certainty. Another circle, also near Callanish (No. 91), is double, consisting of two concentric rings, as the ruinous circle at Druim nan Eum (No. 92) seems also to have done. In Skye only one group of standing stones remains practically complete. This is at Strathaird (No. 667), and consists of four tall pillars enclosing a small area. There is a record of a circle near Kilbride, while the standing stones called Clachan Erisco (No. 636) doubtless indicate the site of another. In the remaining islands of the Outer Hebrides there are very few examples, and these are distributed as follows—one in Harris, probably two on Berneray in the Sound of Harris, six in North Uist, and two in Benbecula. We have already referred to two of the North Uist examples as enclosing chambered cairns (Nos. 232 and 228). Other three (Nos. 248, 249 and 250) are noteworthy because of the large number of stones used to mark the circumference. At Pobuill Fhinn (No. 250) the site has been levelled before the setting up of the monument.

Although, in the absence of definite proof, it cannot be assumed that any or all of the detached monoliths have a sepulchral significance, it will be convenient to refer to them here. Near Barraglom, Great Bernera, three occupy an unusual

position near the edge of a precipice on the seashore. Three set up in line on Blashaval, North Uist are known as Na Fir Bhreige or The False Men (No. 246). Pairs occur at Kensaleyre in Skye (No. 638), at Toroghas in North Uist (No. 255), and at Borve (No. 461) and Druim a Charra (No. 460), both in Barra. Two at Crois Mhic Jamain, North Uist (No. 243) differ from those just mentioned, inasmuch as they are smaller and stand upon the tops of two adjacent mounds which are so close to one another as actually to be in contact. Single monoliths appear frequently. The most notable is Clach an Trushal in Lewis (No. 16), rising as it does 18 feet 10 inches above ground. It is rivalled in size by the prostrate pillar Ultach Fhinn in North Uist (No. 247), which measures 22 feet 3 inches in length and has in all likelihood been meant for, if not used as, a standing stone, since it has evidently been moved by the hands of man.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

Nothing has impressed us more strongly in the course of our survey of the prehistoric antiquities of the islands, particularly in some districts, than the large number of defensive constructions, loosely called *duns*. In the Long Island, for the geographical reasons stated in the first paragraph of our Historical Introduction, the great majority are to be found on the western side. As a rule, they lie either on or near the seashore, except in North Uist and Benbecula, where, however, the sea is never very far away. The explanation of this distribution is obvious; in prehistoric as in modern times ready access to a source of food supply must have been a consideration of paramount importance in determining the choice of a dwelling-place. In selecting the sites for their purpose, the builders of the *duns* were influenced by another motive of which it has not been necessary for their successors to take serious account—the desire to be safe against sudden attack. When allowance is made for this difference, it will be found that those parts of the islands which were thickly peopled in prehistoric days are precisely the parts where the population has tended to concentrate since. An incidental result is that many of the ancient structures have been systematically plundered of their stones in order to provide the material required for their modern successors. *Duns* that remain in anything like their original condition are thus very few and far between.

Sites strong in natural defence abound, but those selected for artificial fortification fall into two main classes—hillocks and islands. In nearly all the habitable parts of Skye flat-topped knolls, often rendered difficult of approach by precipitous rocks, are available on the seashore or the neighbouring hillside. Similar conditions occasionally present themselves in the Outer Hebrides. There, however, advantage has much more frequently been taken of the islets in the numerous lochs. In both cases, while the position is naturally strong, the space that could be occupied was restricted. Hence the absence of a class of defensive constructions which we noted frequently in Berwickshire and in Galloway, and which are known to occur in other parts of Scotland not yet surveyed—large enclosures, designed to furnish protection for quite a considerable number of people, and usually fortified by a varying number of ditches and of ramparts either of stone or of earth. Only two of the Hebridean *duns* surviving, Dun Cruinn (No. 621) and Dun Adhamh (No. 623), both in Skye, have an outer earthen rampart, and even that runs but half-way round the circumference. As to size, though Dun Mor, Strath, Skye (No. 653), now an utter ruin,



FIG. 5.—Distribution Map of Defensive Constructions.
N.B.—Brochs include probable examples. Duns include late Duns.

is by far the largest fort in the island, yet its internal dimensions are only 330 feet by 120 feet.

Little attempt has been made to excavate any of these structures scientifically, and consequently it would be rash to endeavour to date them, particularly as the question is in many instances complicated by evidence of structural alterations which must have been made at a period long subsequent to their original erection. We do know, however, that the broch, a highly developed variety of *dun*, may be assigned roughly to the early centuries of the Christian era. On the other hand, there are *duns* in North Uist which are traditionally said to have been occupied as late as the sixteenth century, while there is evidence to suggest that forts of dry-stone masonry continued to be built well into mediæval times. In face of such difficulties the utmost we can do is to attempt to distinguish different types. Where such a distinction can be made, a contemporary origin may be claimed for all of a similar type, even although it may not prove possible to arrange the types themselves in chronological sequence. Neglecting minor variations, not infrequently to be accounted for by the exigencies of the site, we may, for the purpose of the present review, group the Hebridean *duns* in six classes. Two of these are perfectly well defined—the broch, and what we propose to call the galleried *dun*. We begin here with the latter.

Galleried Duns.—The galleried *dun* is a variety of fort or dry-stone building which resembles the broch in having long, narrow galleries within the thickness of the wall and a long, narrow entrance with door-checks and bar-holes. It differs from the broch in being irregular in plan, not circular, and also in having in all probability been lower when intact. The Hebridean examples, however, are in such a dilapidated condition that it is no longer possible to form any idea of the original height of their walls, while even the narrow doorway has too often disappeared entirely. Previous to our survey, which has added nine examples to the list, only three structures of the kind had been identified—Dun Grugaig in Glenelg,¹ Castle Haven in Kirkcudbright,² and one at Barra Head Lighthouse on the southern extremity of the Long Island. Eight of those which we record for the first time are in Skye, and the ninth is Dun Scurrival in Barra (No. 449). The feature of a thick wall with internal galleries is common to all of them, but only the more accessible and more vulnerable parts of the enclosures have been given this special protection, the defence of the rest being left mainly to nature, supplemented sometimes by a wall of much less substantial character, which served the purpose of a parapet.

The shape of the enclosure and the length of the galleried wall is thus largely determined by the natural character and outline of the site. Dun Grugaig (No. 651), Dun Ringill (No. 650) and the *dun* at Loch Brittle (No. 483), all in Skye, as well as the *dun* at Barra Head, occupy rocky headlands descending in precipices to the sea; at Barra Head, for instance, there is a sheer fall of 650 feet. So, too, Dun Ardtreck (No. 484), where, however, only part of the promontory is enclosed. The *dun* at Peinduin (No. 630), Dun Liath (No. 541) and Dunan an Aisilidh (No. 576) are somewhat similarly situated, inasmuch as they stand on high ground more or less completely surrounded by precipitous

¹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, xxix. (1894-5) p. 183.

² *Fifth Report and Inventory*: Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, No. 64; *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, xli. (1906-7) p. 68.

rocks. There is much variation in the length of the galleried wall that was regarded as necessary. Twice, however, at Dun Kearstach in Skye (No. 649) and Dun Scurrival in Barra, each of which occupies the summit of an oval eminence, it has been carried completely round as at Castle Haven. It is possible that the enclosing wall may once have been complete at Dun Ringill and Dun Ardtreck also, but that some parts of it may have been carried into the sea by a fall of the cliff. If so, Dun Ardtreck may have been nearly circular when intact, and one might almost be tempted to class it as a broch—particularly as its outer face shows a distinct batter—were it not that its internal diameter (44 feet) would be abnormally large and its wall ($8\frac{1}{2}$ feet) abnormally thin.

It remains to note one or two special points. Traces of upper galleries still remain at Barra Head and Loch Brittle. In Dun Grugaig, Skye, the gallery is at a higher level than the entrance. The same is the case in Dun Ringill, where, moreover, there is a small stair leading from the entrance passage to the inner level, which is higher than the level outside, while another stair has led from the interior down to a very large oval beehive cell in the thickness of the wall. The *dun* at Loch Brittle, like Dun Ardtreck, has a distinct batter on the outer face, and there also, as well as at Dun Grugaig and Dun Scurrival, there is a scarcement on the inside of the wall, another characteristic broch feature.

Although the number of galleried duns so far recorded is comparatively small, it is possible that many more may be brought to light as our survey is extended. In any event their existence is of considerable significance. Their architecture resembles that of the brochs in so many respects that a common origin is plainly suggested. Taken in connection with the so-called 'semi-brochs' in Tiree, which were described by the late Dr. Erskine Beveridge,¹ they may well be found to provide a clue to the ancestry of the broch proper, a structure so complex that it is impossible to believe that it sprang into existence as a complete and fully developed whole. Fig. 6 exhibits what we may venture to call a typological series of galleried structures, selected from those which are dealt with in the following Inventory. It will be seen that it includes varieties ranging from what would appear to be the simplest type to the most intricate. But it cannot therefore be claimed that it is chronological, that the short wall at Barra Head or that of Dun Grugaig is earlier than the more complete circuits of Dun Kearstach or Dun Ringill, or that these again are necessarily older than Dun Beag, Struanmore (No. 479) and Dun Fiadhairt (No. 508), with their elaborate galleries and walls. The differences in construction may be due to differences in the purposes which the various buildings had to serve. At the same time the series may suggest the line of evolution, even although the particular examples chosen do not in themselves illustrate the process and may be broadly contemporary, showing only the different ways of applying the general idea of double walls with a lintelled interspace or gallery.

Brochs.—Including doubtful examples, of which there are about fifteen, forty-four brochs have been noted in the islands—twenty-four in Skye, seven in Lewis, two in North Uist, three in South Uist, and eight in Barra and the adjoining islands. As a rule they are in very ruinous condition, many being practically reduced to the foundations. Their destruction has been so universal that only about fourteen show an average height of more than 4 feet, a few of these approaching 8 and 9 feet

¹ *Coll and Tiree* (1903), pp. 73 ff.

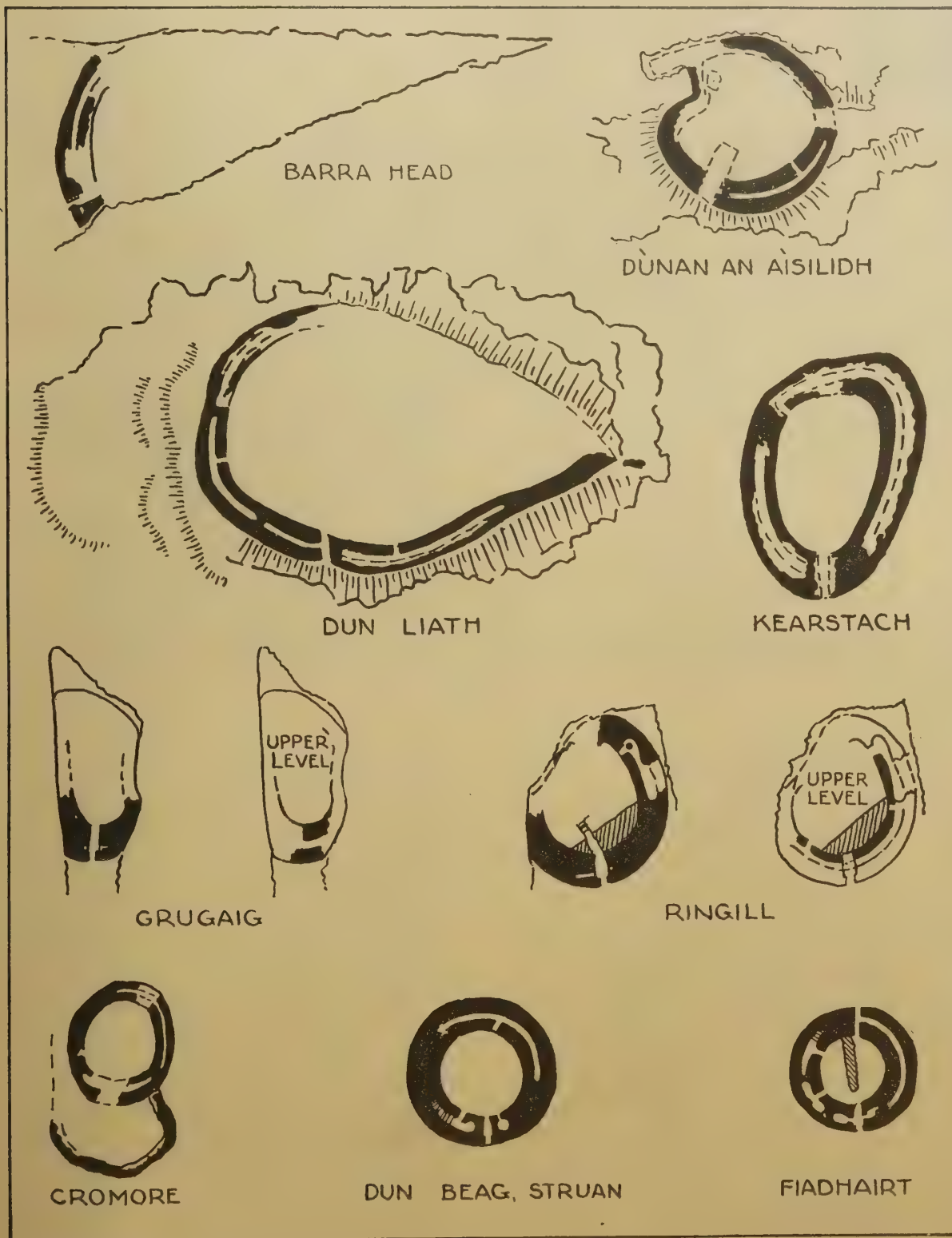


FIG. 6.—Typological Series of Galleried Structures. Drawn to Uniform Scale.

where they are best preserved. The outstanding exception is Dun Carloway in Lewis (No. 68), which still stands 30 feet high on one side, with four internal galleries traceable. How many courses of stone, if any, are wanting on the top, it is not possible to say. The Skye brochs, with the exception of Dun Greanan (No. 539), which is built on a strip of land projecting into Loch Mealt, and of one or two which stand on sloping ground, have been erected on small rocky knolls. Sometimes they occupy practically the whole of the summit. More frequently, however, the broch covers only a part of the plateau, and when this occurs the whole is usually enclosed by an outer wall. Where a ridge serves as the site, which is seldom, the approach is sometimes covered by a wall of defence. In the Outer Hebrides, on the other hand, the small islands on inland lochs have often been utilised, access being gained by a causeway. If the whole area of the islet is not included in the main structure, the unoccupied portion is in most cases walled in. Good examples are Dun Torcuill, North Uist (No. 172) and Dun Cromore, Lewis (No. 38). The outer annex at Dun Torcuill is divided into three compartments, which may, however, be later than the broch itself, to judge by the arrangement of the walls and the character of the masonry.

The Hebridean brochs have an average wall thickness of about 11 feet, somewhat less than that of the brochs on the opposite mainland. There are also considerable differences in the structure of the lower part of the building. In the Hebrides it tends to be less solid. The so-called oval guard-chamber is common to both groups, but many of the Hebridean brochs have also long galleries on the floor level. Dun Cromore in Lewis (No. 38), Dun Torcuill in North Uist (No. 172), Dun a' Chaolais on Vatersay (No. 442), Dun Gearymore (No. 511), Dun Fiadhairt (No. 507) and Dun Beag, Struanmore (No. 479), all in Skye, are some of those that might be cited as cases in point. In Dun Fiadhairt and Dun Beag a gallery extends round almost half the building, while the gallery in Dun Gearymore though incomplete is 25 feet long. In addition to a gallery and guard-chambers, Dun Fiadhairt has two oval cells. Dun Borge, Lewis (No. 11), on the other hand, has at least four oval cells, but the precise character of the northern sector, whether cells or gallery, is not quite certain. Mainland examples often have only oval cells on the ground level. The brochs at Coldoch in Perthshire, and Edinshall in Berwickshire,¹ for instance, are without galleries, but have three and five oval cells respectively, apart from the entrance to the stair, while some of the Caithness brochs have neither galleries nor oval cells.

One of the most characteristic features of the broch proper is the narrowness of the single entrance. At Dun Fiadhairt we noted a very small, low supplementary opening through the wall nearly opposite the main approach. A similar opening was observed in three of the Caithness brochs,² where, however, it was not clear whether it might not have been secondary. The position of the doorway is often indicated by a thickening of the wall. In the broch on Sandray (No. 444), again, which is perched on a narrow ridge, the wall narrows appreciably at the sides of the ridge owing to the cramped nature of the space available. In spite of the narrowing, however, the gallery is continuous. Another peculiarity of this broch is that it has a gallery opening out of the inner end of one of the guard-chambers, a feature

¹ *First Report and Inventory*: Berwickshire, No. 114.

² *Third Report and Inventory*: Caithness, Nos. 511, 515, 517.

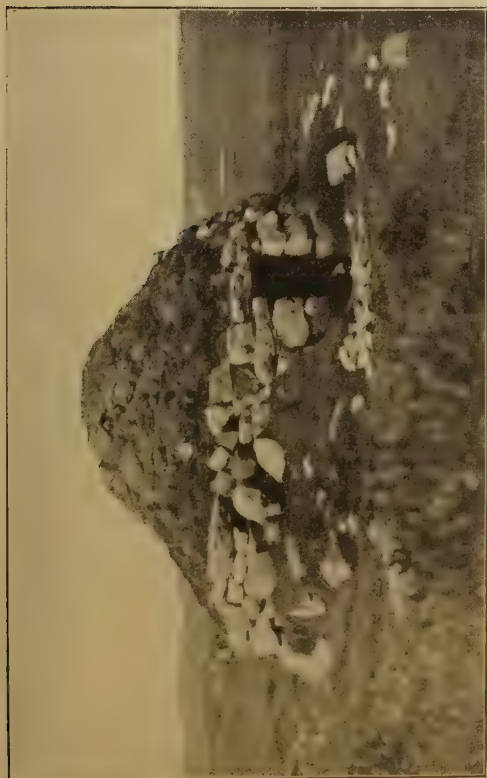


FIG. 7.—Garynahine, Lewis.

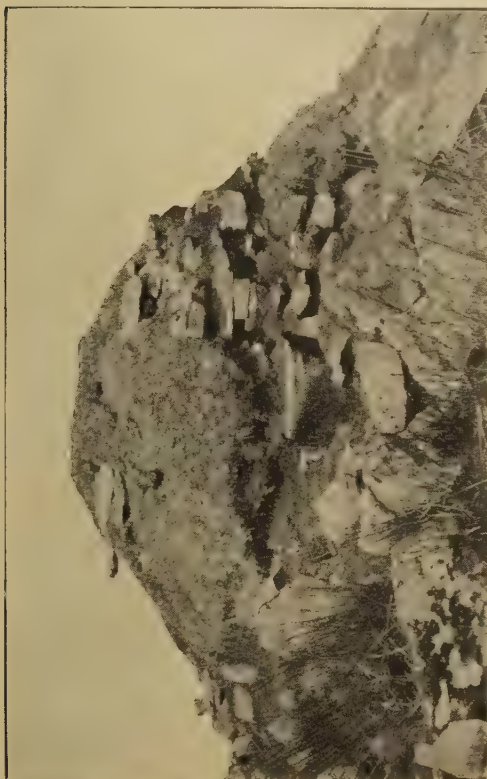


FIG. 8.—At Loch a' Sguir, Lewis.

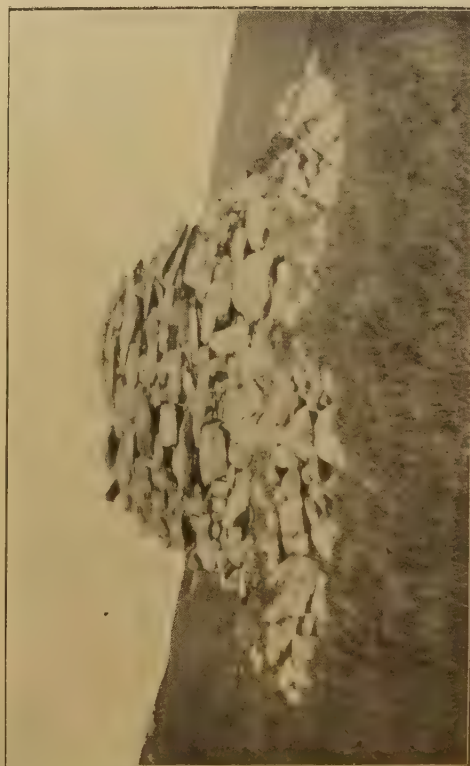


FIG. 9.—At Loch a' Sguir, Lewis (uncovered).

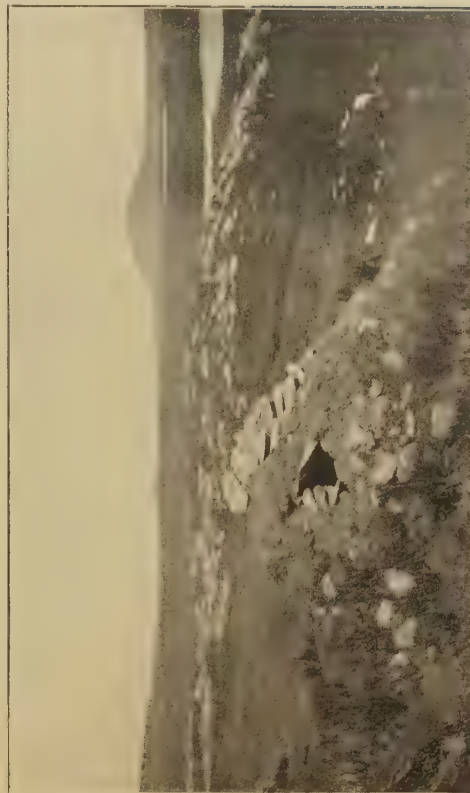


FIG. 10.—At Loch Choirigerod, Lewis.

BEEHIVE SHIELINGS (p, xü).

which recurs at Dun Carloway. Finally, we were struck with the narrowness of the galleries in the Hebridean brochs. In Dun Gearymore, for instance, even the one on the floor level is only a foot and a half wide, a circumstance which suggests the possibility that the hollow wall of the broch may have been, to some extent at least, a structural device rather than an arrangement for providing shelter for the inhabitants.

Promontory Forts.—Forts formed by the erection of defences across the landward end of a promontory occur but rarely in the islands. We have noted two in Lewis (Nos. 12 and 34), one each in Skye (No. 490) and North Uist (No. 190), and two on Berneray, Barra Head (Nos. 450, 453). On Mingulay, a peninsula of considerable extent, known as Dun Mingulay (No. 452), is cut off from the main part of the island by a stout wall built just beyond the narrow connecting neck. Somewhat similar is the almost inaccessible Biruaslum, which is separated from Vatersay by a precipitous chasm, dry only between half and low tide, and therefore really a tidal island.

Seashore Forts.—Apart from the classes already dealt with, forts built on lofty headlands and on the edge of cliffs are very numerous, especially in Skye. They are almost always of small area and of a shape determined by the site. The wall is carried round the whole perimeter, while sometimes the line of approach, which usually rises sharply, often along a narrow neck or ridge, is strengthened by outer defences. There is little that is notable about the interiors of these forts, but attention may be drawn to one or two points. Dun na h-Airde, Skye (No. 520), which is divided into two courts by a straight wall cutting obliquely across the centre, has an interesting entrance and a well-like structure inside. Dun Geilbt, Skye (No. 602) contains half of a very small circular structure which has a solid wall showing a scarcement inside. Dun Skudiburgh, Skye (No. 542) is specially remarkable for its different wards and for the pear-shaped plan of the main inner structure. The fort on an inland loch in Taransay (No. 117), Dun Borranish on a tidal islet off the coast of Lewis (No. 74), and Dun Mhic Risdain, Benbecula (No. 343) all show a flattening on one side. Besides its peculiarity of plan, Dun Skudiburgh is noteworthy as being strengthened on one side by an outer casing of stone, not bonded into the main wall and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick at its maximum. A similar reinforcement is observable in Dun Borge, Harris (No. 125) and in the broch known as Dun Arkaig, Skye (No. 480). In none of the cases where the side of the wall is flattened is any explanation apparent in the nature of the site. Dun Skudiburgh and the Taransay fort have both a wide recess on the inner side of the wall, a feature which appears nowhere else.

Forts in Lochs.—For reasons already explained, the majority of the duns in Lewis, North Uist, Benbecula and South Uist occupy small islands on inland lochs. But it is not surprising, in view of the small number of inland lochs in Skye, to find that, if we except Dun Greanan, Loch Mealt, which is a broch, there is only one such *dun*, Dun Maraig (No. 627), and this is on a tidal islet. Access to such forts is usually had by means of a causeway from the nearest point on the shore of the loch. These causeways which, nowadays at all events, are generally more or less submerged, are seldom straight, having as a rule either a single or a double curve, and occasionally following a zig-zag course. A few of them seem to have gaps intentionally left to trap or impede undesirable visitors. At the Dun, Loch Hunder (No. 173) there is an interesting series of such causeways; one connects the *dun* with the shore,

another leads to a fortified island not far away, and a third runs direct from this island to the shore. As a rule, the islands selected for the purpose are comparatively small, so that the *dun* wall encloses the whole area. The *dun* on Taransay (No. 117), however, covers only two-thirds of the available space, being separated from the unoccupied ground by a straight wall. At the other extreme is Dun Nighean Rìgh Lochlainn, Portain (No. 199), where the wall all round rises sheer from the water's edge.

Other differences appear, for the most part, to be of small account. A certain number of *duns*, however, are marked by features which indicate that they should be placed in a category by themselves. In these the wall, which follows the winding of the shore, is interrupted at one point by an entrance from the causeway and at another by a second opening, which seems to have been intended for a boat, since it is opposite deeper water. The domestic buildings within are frequently rectangular in shape and therefore presumably late in type. The most conspicuous example of this group is Dun Ban in Loch Caravat (No. 215), where wall and rectangular house are built with lime, in striking contrast to the dry-stone building of all the other *duns*. It has but one entrance, which, however, has evidently been intended to admit a boat. Another fortified island, which shows a fine water-gate and an inner building of late type, is Dun Aonais, North Uist (No. 213). At Dun an t-Siamain (No. 211), the water-gate and what may have been a boat harbour are well preserved, but the building is so full of fallen material that its internal structure is quite obscured. In two instances what may possibly be a parapet appears on one or more stretches of wall. The back and one side wall of Dun Raouill, South Uist (No. 380) show in their interior a shelf or scarcement, the effect of which is to suggest that the masonry rising above it was intended as a breastwork. These parts of the walls, however, had been utilised as walls of the rectangular house, and possibly the scarcement may have been designed to carry the roof-couples of the house, in which case what looks like a parapet is simply the upper part of the wall. But such an explanation would hardly be applicable to the *dun* in Loch Druim an Iasgair, also in South Uist (No. 381), where no traces of a rectangular building remain. Here, on the other hand, the rampart-walk, if such it can be called, is so narrow that it could have afforded but scanty standing-room.

We have already suggested (pp. xxiii ff.) that the *duns* of the type just described may belong to a comparatively late period, and we have classified them accordingly in our Inventory. We also pointed out that all the examples recorded are in that part of the Long Island which lies to the south of the Sound of Harris. Possibly, however, the list may not be exhaustive. Many island sites, including some in Lewis and Harris, could not be reached for lack of a boat, and their precise character was therefore left undetermined. In Skye, on the other hand, where lochs are few, such *duns* were hardly to be looked for.

OTHER HUMAN HABITATIONS.

Hut Circles.—Traces of hut circles were observed in some of the *duns* of simpler form. In the absence of associated relics it is impossible to assign them to any particular phase of culture. While some, probably many, of the hut circles on the mainland belong to the Bronze Age, there are others which were certainly in occupation after iron had come into use.

Beehive Shielings.—By beehive shielings we mean the small, circular, dry-stone buildings roofed with overlapping slabs so arranged as to form what is known as a “false arch” (*cf.* Figs. 7-10). As a form of construction this type of arch is archaic; it was used for roofing the cells of brochs and also for early Christian buildings. But it does not follow that the few examples which still exist are of any great antiquity.¹ Originally the roof was protected by an outer covering of turf, the disappearance of which tends to be followed by a rapid disintegration of the main fabric. Until recent times, examples existed in remote corners of Lewis, while others have been recorded in the Forest of Harris. Probably most of them have long ago been reduced to shapeless heaps of stone, but one in a good state of preservation is still to be seen near Garynahine (Fig. 7). They generally stood in small clusters on the old-time *airidh* or summer pasture, each separate shieling being known simply as *bothan* or *both*, a hut. On the average they had an interior diameter of from 7 to 8 feet and were 7 to 8 feet high in the inside, with one or two recesses in the wall.² As late as 1900 a group in Morsgail Forest, Lewis, survived in fairly good condition. There the individual huts communicated with each other internally, and the largest was of exceptional size, having an interior diameter of 12 feet and a height of 11 feet in the inside.³ No beehive shielings are to be found in North or South Uist or in Barra.⁴ Martin apparently refers to examples in Skye when he speaks of “little stone houses capable only of one person and round in form.” As he tells us that they were called “Tey nin druinich, *i.e.* Druid’s House,” it may be inferred that they had been so long out of use that their original purpose had been forgotten. “Druinich,” he explains, “signifies a retired person, much devoted to contemplation.” Its real meaning, however, is “artist” or “artificer” (*draoineach, druineach*).⁵

Earth-houses.—The earth-house, by which is to be understood a drystone building, constructed just under the surface of the ground, is well represented. In Skye six were visited and the sites of at least three others are known. The best preserved is in Kilmuir parish at the northern end of the island (No. 556). It consists of the remains of a low, narrow, lintelled tunnel with an oval, beehive-shaped cell, the roof of which has been destroyed at the inner extremity. At Claihan nothing is left but a tunnel, still 36 feet in length (No. 529). In the other cases various lengths of a similar entrance passage are traceable, but the building at Tungadal (No. 497) would appear to have been more elaborate. Four examples have been identified in Lewis, and two in Harris, all of them now covered with

¹ *Cf.* Capt. Thomas: “The newest in Lewis was built about ninety years ago. As the roofs of the boths in Lewis are frequently falling in, they must be repeatedly built from the foundations.” (*Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vii. (1867) p. 190; *cf.* p. 161 and iii. (1858) p. 135.) Capt. Thomas considered “these beehive houses to be the Scottic or Irish type of the earliest domestic dwelling, and to have been introduced into the Outer Hebrides after the conquest of these islands by the Northmen, at the end of the eighth century. It is probable that, as in the Orkneys, the Pictish inhabitants and Scottic priests were completely extirpated.” (*Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, iii. (1857-8) p. 140.) But (1) there was probably some “Scottic” settlement in the wake of the missionaries between, say, A.D. 600 and 850, and (2) the construction of the beehive roof is already exemplified in the domical cells of brochs and in certain earth-houses.

² *Cf.* *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, iii. (1857-8) p. 127; vii. (1866-7) p. 153; xxxviii. (1903-4) p. 173.

³ Information from J. G. Campbell, Esq., formerly Sheriff-Substitute at Stornoway.

⁴ *Cf.* Capt. Thomas in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, iii. (1858) p. 135.

⁵ Macbain’s *Place Names of the Highlands and Islands*, p. 309.

drifted sand. One is known to have been destroyed on Taransay and two on Berneray, Harris, where two more are probably embedded among the sand dunes near the north-western corner of the island. None was observed nor were any reported at the lower end of the Long Island. In South Uist, however, there are several—at least three at Usinish, one not far from Loch Sheilavaig (No. 393), and another at Loch nan Arm near Lochboisdale. An example at Daliburgh has been destroyed and not even the site is now certain. That at Loch nan Arm (No. 397), built in a rickle of stones which have fallen from the steep hill-face above, shows three small, ruined, circular stone-buildings lying close together. From the central buildings a tunnel, almost intact and following a double curve in its course, leads into a domical chamber which is still complete. Of one of the earth-houses at Usinish (No. 394), little more than the opening into the passage survives, while another is practically a rock shelter (No. 396). The remaining and most important one is noted below.

The earth-houses of North Uist are of very special interest. The variety with an entrance tunnel and an inner beehive chamber occurs here as elsewhere. One has been opened at Vallaquie (No. 274), and a second at Port nan Long (No. 266). On the shore of Loch Hacklett are ruins (No. 267) which indicate a low tunnel consisting of two converging sections, while the site of another was noted beside Dun Rosail (No. 334). An earth-house at Sithean an Altair, on the large tidal island of Vallay, is remarkable as consisting of three chambers, one triangular in plan, another rectangular, and the third curvilinear.¹ Again, what might be termed a regular underground hamlet was excavated by the late Dr. Erskine Beveridge at Foshigary, on the northern shore of the main island. It consisted of five distinct curvilinear structures, communicating with one another through their impinging walls.² But, as Dr. Beveridge's excavations have shown, the most characteristic variety of North Uist earth-house is shaped somewhat like a wheel, recalling in several respects the "wags" of Caithness.³ A circular space is enclosed by a dry-stone wall and divided into wedge-shaped compartments by short walls which lie radially, but which do not start from the centre and do not reach the circumference. The spaces between the outer ends of these radial walls have been left open, so that each compartment is directly accessible from the surrounding passage-way. The spaces between the inner ends, on the other hand, have usually, though not always, been built up, leaving a central space where there has been a hearth and which has possibly been left open to the sky. The compartments formed by the radial walls have been made into little chambers by being roofed over with lintel stones. The best example, now covered up once more by drifting sand, lies at Machair Leathann (No. 272), but those at Eilean Maleit (No. 270) and Cnoc a Comhdhalach (No. 269) are still exposed. One at Garry Iochdrach, Vallay Strand, was filled up after excavation to preserve the structure. There are evidently four others among the sand dunes at Udal (No. 273), and possibly one or more on the seashore near Balelone (No. 335).

Though the wheel-shaped earth-house is commoner in North Uist than else-

¹ It was excavated by Dr. Beveridge, but thereafter the soil was replaced. See for details Beveridge's *North Uist*, pp. 118-121.

² This place was excavated by Dr. Beveridge, but no further details are available, as it was subsequently covered up with blown sand as it had been before he opened it.

³ *Report and Inventory*: Caithness, p. xl. and *passim*.



FIG. 12.—Viking Sword-hilt from Eigg.



FIG. 11.—Viking Ornaments from Lewis.

where, it is by no means confined to that island. In point of fact, one of the earth-houses at Usinish in South Uist (No. 395) has for many years been known to be of this type. The structure buried in sand at Bruthach a Tuath in Benbecula (No. 354) seems to have had somewhat similar features, while there is some reason to think that at least one of the two buried examples on Berneray belongs to the same class. No trace of anything of the kind has, however, so far been detected in Skye or in Lewis.

To judge by the character of the relics recovered in analogous structures on the mainland, the earth-house belongs to the Early Iron Age. This evidence is confirmed for the Islands by the fragment of Samian ware found in an earth-house at Bac Mhic Connain (No. 271), and by a similar fragment picked up on the site of an earth-house at Berie (No. 98). Even more specific testimony is supplied by the use of Roman-dressed stones in the construction of the earth-houses at Crichton Mains, Midlothian, and near Newstead, Melrose. These stones must have been taken from forts which were abandoned by the Romans when they withdrew from Southern Scotland towards the end of the second century of our era. The collection formed by Dr. Beveridge during his exploration of the North Uist earth-houses, and now in the National Museum of Antiquities, includes many specimens of such familiar

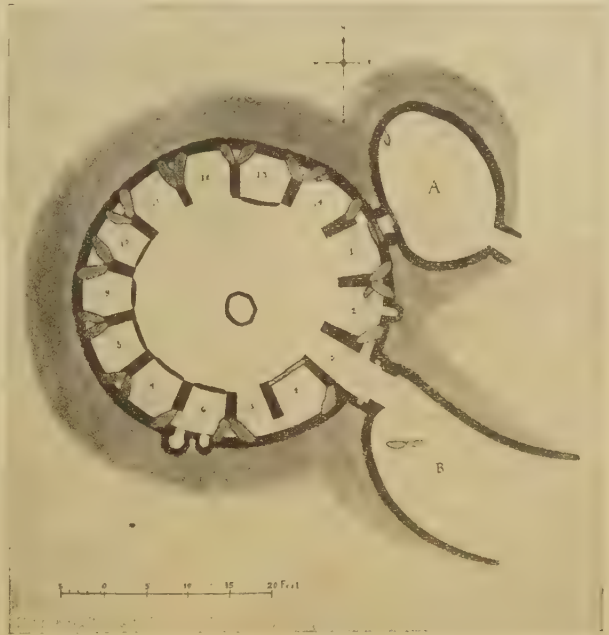


FIG. 11.—Earth-house, Machair Leathann (No. 272).



FIG. 14.—Chessmen of Walrus Ivory from Lewis (No. 85).

broch relics as the long-handled weaving-comb of bone and the oval pebble of quartz or quartzite, obliquely grooved on its faces through having been used as a

strike-a-light. The most remarkable feature, however, is the large number of fashioned slabs of cetacean bone. Nothing that could be associated with the Vikings was recovered, so that it would appear that the Norsemen made no sort of use of these structures. At a later date, however, they seem to have been freely taken advantage of as places of refuge. It is obviously to them that Dean Monro refers in his remarks upon Uist when he says: "Into this north head of Ywst (*cf.* p. xx) there is sundrie covis and holes in the earth, coverit with heddir above, quhilk fosters maney rebellis in the country of the north heid of Ywst."

ROCK MARKINGS.

Rock markings in the form of cup-shaped hollows were noted only in North Uist, where we record eight groups, all of them on earth-fast rocks or boulders, and in Benbecula, where there is a group on a fine slab which has probably been used as a standing stone. None were seen in Skye or in any of the other islands (but *cf.* p. 13). So far as the Outer Hebrides are concerned, this may perhaps be accounted for by the nature of the prevailing rock, which is gneiss and leaves a very rough surface exposed when it is weathered. As a rule, the groups contain a large number of cups of various sizes within a small area. At Ard a Mhorain (No. 265) the markings occupy the surface of two small parallel ridges, which are covered with water at high tide.

VIKING BURIALS.

In our Historical Introduction (p. xxii) we have drawn attention to the scantiness of the traces of Scandinavian influence which, apart from the place-names, have been left in the Western Islands by the many centuries of Norse domination. The Viking relics which we include in the list printed below (pp. liv ff.) are few in number, but they include several from graves. Large numbers of these graves must have been destroyed, some of them by subsequent settlers in the course of agricultural operations and some of them by wind and weather.

II. SECULAR STRUCTURES.

Castles approximating to the mainland types are scarce in the Islands, only fifteen examples being recorded. Most of them are in Skye, where there are seven, South Uist has four, Barra two, Benbecula and Canna one each. The sites of these buildings are generally wild and rugged. In certain cases they are sheer pinnacles of rock, difficult and even dangerous of access, as for example at Brochel (No. 574) and Coroghon (No. 680). At Dun Scaich (No. 599) the site, though naturally strong, has been further secured by a rock-cut gully, crossed by a drawbridge. Six castles are tower houses, viz: Castles Maol (No. 648), Sinclair (No. 440), Borge (No. 342), Bheagram (No. 371), Caisteal Uisdein (No. 617) and the Weaver's Castle (No. 372). Castle Maol is probably of the 15th century. It is now a mere fragment, but is oblong on plan and gives no evidence of vaulted chambers. Vaulting is of rare occurrence in the island buildings, being found only at Dunvegan Castle (No. 504), Duntulm Castle (No. 538), and above a pend at Trionaid Church, Carinish. Castle Sinclair and Castle Bheagram, each built on an island in an inland loch, are

diminutive towers, measuring externally only $18\frac{1}{2}$ by 18 feet and $12\frac{3}{4}$ by $10\frac{1}{4}$ feet, while the Weaver's Tower, built on an island off Barra, is even smaller, measuring $12\frac{1}{4}$ by $9\frac{3}{4}$ feet. Against these tiny structures may be set the tower of Borge, which measures 60 by $36\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and that of Caisteal Uisdein, measuring $49\frac{3}{4}$ by $32\frac{3}{4}$ feet.

The castles which are not classified as towers include Kiessimul Castle (No. 455) and Dunvegan Castle. Kiessimul, though a curiously archaic-looking structure, is apparently not earlier than the first half of the 15th century. It comprises a lofty tower (33 by $28\frac{3}{4}$ feet and 49 feet high) and outbuildings, all set within a courtyard that entirely covers the island site. To the tower of Dunvegan was attached a courtyard, within which a later house arose. At Duntulm, on a promontory site fortified on the landward side by an artificial ditch, a frontal range of about mid-15th century date was thrown from cliff to cliff, enclosing a courtyard in its rear. A part evidently became ruinous, and had to be reconstructed in the 17th century. Roughly similar in arrangement was Dun Scaich, the remains of which are fragmentary. Castle Brochel, in existence in 1549, and perhaps as early as Duntulm, surmounts a stack of conglomerate. It comprises a series of irregular contiguous structures, accommodated to the varying levels of the site, but, as it is extremely ruinous, there is little to indicate the original arrangement. Calvay Castle (No. 369), built on a small island at the mouth of Loch Boisdale, is an irregular enclosure with buildings incorporated in the curtain walls. Certain details of construction show affinity with work on Kiessimul Castle and the two are possibly of the same time. Ormaclett (No. 370), built in 1701, is an island version of a late "Scotch house."

In all these buildings the stonework is rude, the material being local and quite unsuitable for dressing. Mortar beds are consequently heavy, and in some cases the masonry is practically a coarse concrete. Walls are rather thinner than they usually are on the mainland, the 8-foot walls of Dunvegan being the heaviest recorded. Windows and other openings are small, and the almost entire absence of fireplaces is remarkable. There is no example of a newel stair, the most common detail in Scottish architecture; the explanation may lie in the unsuitability of the local material. Roofs may have been slated, but were more probably thatched; the timber frame-work of the roof in many buildings has rested on the inner edge of the walls, a mode of construction only now passing out of use in the Islands.

III. ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

The oldest ecclesiastical term existing in the Islands is *Annait* (*Annaid*), which is peculiar to the Celtic Church,¹ and probably indicates in Scotland, as in Ireland, the mother-church or monastic community of the earliest Christian settlement in the district. It is now structurally represented only by the example in Skye (No. 499).² The name, however, occurs elsewhere, as on the Shiant ("Holy") Isles, and in the

¹ Cf. Macbain's *Place Names, Highlands and Islands of Scotland*, p. 283, and Watson's *Celtic Place-Names of Scotland*, p. 250.

² Dr. Johnson visited this site on 17th September 1773 and Boswell has left a description of it. The local clergyman, who was their guide, held that the building standing east and west "was actually the temple of the goddess Anaitis."

plural form, *na h'Annaidean*, at Shader, Lewis, while it is also reported to be known on Staffin Island, Skye. Near Kilbride, in Strath, Skye, are a stone called *Clach na h'Annait* (No. 666) and a well, *Tobar na h'Annait*. But in no case is the term accompanied by any personal saintly name or dedication.¹

A common designation for a church is Kil (*Cill*) as a prefix, the locative case of *ceall* for Old Irish *cell*, borrowed from the Latin *cella*, while *Teampull* (Lat. *templum*) is also frequent in the islands, particularly in Lewis, though on the mainland of Ross-shire it occurs only twice. Both words are normally, but not always, followed by the name of a saint and, where it is a Celtic name, the foundation may be attributed to the Celtic Church. But this need not mean a primitive dedication in the accepted sense. Under the Roman rule all mediæval churches were thus dedicated to some saint. In the Celtic Church, however, a site for a monastery and church was consecrated by prolonged fasting and prayer in the manner described by Bede,² who in the case he gives makes no mention of a dedication. Thus, too, the church at Lindisfarne, though built by Abbot Finan, was dedicated to St Peter at a later time by Archbishop Theodore.³ Between the building and the dedication had intervened the Synod of Whitby (664), which resulted in the ultimate disappearance of the Celtic Church and its supersession by that of Rome. Then followed dedications proper, though, where the local association was strong, the name of the Celtic holy man might be preserved. Moreover, also in conformity with Celtic usage, "Kil" may be prefixed to a word which is not the name of a saint. Kilmore in Sleat is "the great church." Teampull Beag in the island of Pabbay, Harris (No. 107) signifies "little church." Various church names in the Celtic districts of Scotland are merely descriptive, as they possibly were from the beginning.

The connection of a Celtic personal name with a church, therefore, is not originally due to dedication in the ordinary sense.⁴ It was in some way proprietorial. The matter is rather obscure. The Celtic Church, it must be remembered, was monastic in organisation, not territorial, and missionary monks could move to any district and found churches. "A hundred churches," says the old Irish Life of St Columba, "is the number of churches he has on the margin of the sea." St Columba heads the list in number of churches and chapels connected with his name in these Islands, but the only island on which he set foot was Skye; he never was in Lewis, Harris or South Uist, where his name is nevertheless commemorated. These latter foundations therefore cannot be personal, but may signify an original connection with Iona. Barr, or Finbarr, of Cork, is commemorated in Cille-bharra in the island of Barra. Barra is "Barr's island," with the Norse *ey* for island, which shows that the saint's name was identified with it before the arrival of the Norse. Similarly, Taransay is "Taran's isle," where Taran or Ternan is a saint with a Pictish name⁵; this association, too, is therefore pre-Norse. The name Pabbay, attached to four islands in the Outer Hebrides and one in Skye, signified "priest's isle," and is also of the earlier Celtic period. Donnan, martyred at Eigg in 731, is likewise of early Celtic origin. St Aulay (Olaf) at Gress, Lewis (No. 45) is the only Norse saint among the dedications.

¹ But quite near Clach na h'Annait is the site of a chapel to St Bridget.

² *Ecclesiastical History*, III. 23.

³ *Ibid.*, 25.

⁴ See on this *An Essay on the Welsh Saints* (1836), by Rev. Rice Rees, Sections II., III.

⁵ *Tarainus* is the name of a Pictish nobleman in Adamnan's *Vita Columbae*, lib. ii. cap. xxiii.



FIG. 15—Teampull Mholuidh, Eorpie (No. 8):
before restoration.



FIG. 16—Chapel, Flannain Isles (No. 105). *C. Dick Peddie.*



FIG. 17—Church, Gress (No. 45).



FIG. 18—Cill Chriosd (No. 645).



FIG. 19—Teampull Eoin (No. 2): from North-West.

CHURCHES.

To face p. xlv

The church on Pabay More in Loch Roag, Lewis (No. 64) bears a dedication to St Peter. This marks the grafting of the new style on the old. After the Synod of Whitby the Celtic Church gradually conformed to Roman usages, including that of dedications. How soon or how late this change would affect the Isles it is impossible to say; Iona was still slowly adapting itself to the new rule in the first quarter of the eighth century. And although Iona is Icolmkill, "I¹ of Colum of the church," the Abbey Church is dedicated to St Mary. Nevertheless, much of the old Celtic leaven still persisted in the Church after the middle of the eleventh century, when Queen Margaret set on foot her reforms. Marks of the new order in the Isles are dedications to Mary, the most numerous after Columba, to Peter, Thomas, Clement, etc. Peculiarly characteristic of Celtic districts are dedications to Michael the Archangel. In these northern isles his dedications come third in number, but, in addition, he was connected with the great horse festivals held annually in the Outer Isles on 20th September, in which horse riding and racing was a great feature (see Martin's *Western Islands*; and Carmichael's *Carmina Gadelica*, vol. i., 200 ff.). He is seen on the effigy stone at Skeabost (No. 616), and on the sculptured tomb at Rodil (No. 111) he is shown weighing souls.

The Annait in the parish of Duirinish, Skye, the tiny chapel on North Rona (No. 9), and the possible cashel on Sgor nam Ban-naomha, Canna (No. 679), which are probably relics of the Columban church, may be regarded as the earliest of the ecclesiastical erections recorded in this Inventory. Their situations are remote and their construction is archaic. St Ronan's chapel, to which a later though almost equally primitive nave has been added, is oblong on plan, measuring 11½ by 7 feet within drystone walls, built of thin flags that converge as they rise to support a lintelled roof of flagstones. The cashel is an enclosure ear-shaped on plan, and measures 50 by 70 yards in diameter. The boundary wall is of dry-stone masonry, and against its inner surface are built five round cells, two of which are here identified as the well-house and the mill; remains of three other circular structures stand free within the enclosure. There is another cashel at Loch Chaluim-Chille in Skye (No. 535), which is oval on plan, measuring 50 by 68 feet in diameter, and is enclosed by a drystone wall from 7 to 11 feet thick. It is built on a mound that was formerly an island, and the remains of its church, rectangular, single-chambered, and built of stone and lime, occupy another island site 70 yards distant, a causeway being provided for communication. At Teampull Chaluim Chille in Benbecula (No. 339) there was apparently a similar arrangement on a similar site. While there is no reliable evidence of date about these buildings, the mortared masonry of the churches suggests a period subsequent to that of Sgor nam Ban Naomha and the chapel on North Rona.

At Howmore, South Uist (No. 367) and at Cille-bharra (Kilbar), Barra (No. 436) there were groups of ecclesiastical buildings, the remains at Howmore being those of two churches and of two of the three chapels formerly there, while the Kilbar group comprises the ruins of a church and two chapels, the former in existence in 1549. All these buildings have been of stone and lime. They are now fragmentary and generally featureless, but it should be noted that the door jambs are built inclined in Celtic fashion. The practice of building churches with free-standing chapels is common enough in Ireland, and the custom has apparently spread from that country to the

¹ I or Hi=Iona. Adamnan used the adjectival form Ioua, later misread as Iona, a form probably popularised through Iona (=a dove) being the Hebrew equivalent of Columba.

Islands. Some churches do, however, have chapels attached to the main building, while others have or have had re-vestries, and St Mholuidh's Church, Eoropie (No. 8) has a symmetrically planned eastern end, the chancel being flanked on the north by the re-vestry and on the south by a chapel which does not communicate with the church, but has an external entrance.

In general, the island churches may be described as single-chambered and oblong on plan, varying in size from 18 by 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ feet, the internal dimensions of Teampull Tigh a Bheannich (No. 63), to 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ by 21 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet, the corresponding measurements of Trionaid, Carinish (No. 160). The masonry is of the roughest description, being built of such stones as came most readily to hand, sometimes laid dry, less frequently in clay, and more commonly with lime mortar. As might be expected in a bare and wind-swept area, openings are few in number and small in size, the entrance to some buildings being no more than 2 feet 3 inches in width, and a little over 3 feet in height. Thatch would be the universal roof covering; only at Trionaid was vaulting observed, and there above a small pend leading from the church to a dwelling built alongside. In view of the almost uniform character of the masonry of the rudely constructed walls and the entire absence of moulding and ornament, the problem of dating these structures is difficult. Documentary evidence is almost entirely lacking, and, where it is found, the source is late and the written record at times conflicts with the structural evidence. Thus, while a chapel at Trionaid, Carinish, is the subject of a charter of confirmation in 1389, the present building is apparently not earlier than about the 16th century. Eye Church (No. 43) and that of St Mholuidh, Eoropie are tentatively assigned to the 14th century; Teampull Chaluim Chille (No. 339) and the two-chambered Teampull Eoin, Bragor (No. 2) to the 15th. There is less uncertainty as to the date of Kildonnan in Eigg (No. 688), built about the middle of the 16th century, to which time also may be attributed Cill Chriosd, Strath (No. 645).

From this background of primitive, rudely built and inornate structures, St Clement's Church at Rodil (No. 111) emerges as the only ecclesiastical building of architectural importance. It is a cruciform church, having transeptal aisles and a western tower, and was built in the early 16th century, possibly on the site of an older building. It is constructed of local rubble with dressings of schist and freestone, the latter material obviously imported. Parts of its fabric are enriched and carved in the manner of Iona, and it contains the finely sculptured tomb dated 1528 to which reference has been made above.

LISTS OF RELICS

STONE AXES.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Bragar, Lewis	Axe, imperfect at butt, $3\frac{3}{8} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LI., p. 176	In National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. In Nat. Mus. Ant. on loan.
Callanish, Lewis	Axe, $3 \times 1\frac{5}{16} \times \frac{3}{4}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXXVII., p. 348	
Do.	Axe, $9\frac{5}{8} \times 3\frac{1}{8} \times 1\frac{5}{8}$ ins.	—	
Corrishader, Uig, Lewis	Portion of the cutting end of axe	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVII., p. 341	In private possession. In private possession. In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Cromore, Lewis	Axe, $6\frac{3}{8}$ ins.	—	
Gress, Stornoway, Lewis	Axe	—	
Ardavouran, Udal	Axe used as a hammer stone	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLIX., p. 11	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Clachan, N. Uist	Axe, $6\frac{1}{4} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ ins., broken at butt	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXXI., p. 234	
Earth-house, Foshigary, N. Uist	Axe, $3\frac{1}{8} \times 2\frac{1}{8}$, with cut- ting edge reground, im- perfect at butt	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LVI., p. 11	
Eilean an Tighe, N. Uist	Axe, butt imperfect, $3\frac{1}{2} \times$ $2\frac{1}{2}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LVI., p. 15	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Do.	Axe or adze, $2\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{8}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVI., p. 328	
Loch, East of Druim Airidh Iomhair	A hoard of six axes	Beveridge's <i>N. Uist</i> , p. 262	
Tota Dunaig, Valley, N. Uist	Axe, $6\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{7}{8}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVI., p. 340	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Muirton, Barra	Three specimens	Glasgow Exhibition (1911) Catalogue, pp. 844-5	
Broadford, Skye	Axe, $3\frac{1}{8} \times 1\frac{7}{8} \times 1\frac{1}{16}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLII., p. 324	
Skye	Axe of jasper, 3×2 ins.	Nat. Mus. Ant. Catalogue, p. 24	Do.
Do.	Axe, $2\frac{3}{4} \times 1\frac{3}{4}$ ins.	Nat. Mus. Ant. Catalogue, p. 24	Do.
Do.	Axe, $2\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{4}$ ins.	Nat. Mus. Ant. Catalogue, p. 25	Do.
Island of Eigg	Axe, $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XII., p. 594	Do.

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AXE-HAMMERS.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Corrishader, Uig, Lewis	Cutting end of a stone axe - hammer, broken through the haft-hole	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVII., p. 341	
Creed, Stornoway	Naturally shaped pebble, $10 \times 4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ ins., perforated	Nat. Mus. Ant. Catalogue, p. 39	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Foshigary, N. Uist	Axe-hammer, $8\frac{5}{8} \times 3\frac{5}{8} \times 1\frac{7}{8}$	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LVI., p. 12	Do.
Illeray, N. Uist	Hammer, $2\frac{3}{4} \times 1\frac{7}{8}$ ins., oval-shaped, perforated from each side	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXI., p. 288	
Do.	Partly polished oval-shaped pebble perforated for a hammer	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXI., p. 288	
Muirton, Barra	Axe-hammer	Glasgow Exhibition (1911) Catalogue, p. 846	

FLINT ARROWHEADS.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Barvas, Lewis, on the machair land near the Parish Church	Barbed arrowhead	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LVIII., p. 18	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Corrishader, Uig, Lewis	Barbed arrowhead of quartz, and another of flint	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVII., p. 341	
Scalpay, Harris	A number of arrowheads	Communication from M. Mackinnon, Esq., Tarbert, Harris	The relics were found about 25 years ago by Mr Norman Cunningham on his croft, and they were for some time in the possession of informant.
Cnoc a Comhdhalach, N. Uist	Leaf-shaped arrowhead	Beveridge's <i>North Uist</i> , p. 205	
Langass Barp, N. Uist	Triangular arrowhead	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVI., p. 327	Found with a semi-circular scraper, five chips of flint and a perforated disc of talc. Now in Nat. Mus. Ant.
South Uist	Arrowhead, with barbs and stem	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., IX., p. 446	Included in sepulchral deposit EQ. 43 in Catalogue of Nat. Mus. Ant.
Cairn at Liveras, Skye	Flint weapons found in chamber	Lamont's <i>Strath in Isle of Skye</i> , pp. 8 and 160	Together with wrist-guards, buckle and urn.
Crofts of Breakish, Skye	Arrowhead	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 6	
Moss at Uiginish, near Dunvegan, Skye	Leaf-shaped arrowhead	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LV., p. 11	
Waternish, Skye	Arrowheads (probably flint)	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXIII., p. 261	
Skye	Spear-head, $4\frac{5}{8}$ ins. long	Prehistoric Annals of Scotland, Vol. I, plate II and p. 182	
Do.	Arrowhead	—	In private possession.
Island of Eigg	Arrowhead	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XII., p. 593	
Do.	Spear-head, 3 ins. long	Nat. Mus. Ant. Catalogue, p. 96.	In Nat. Mus. Ant.

THE OUTER HEBRIDES, SKYE AND THE SMALL ISLES

MISCELLANEOUS FLINT IMPLEMENTS.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Island of Boreray, Harris	Scraper	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LVI., p. 16	
Àn Corran, N. Uist	One flint, with semi-circular recess in one edge	Beveridge's <i>North Uist</i> , p. 239	
Ard a'Bhorain, N. Uist	" A single flint "	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 238	
Bachda-Mor, Vallay, N. Uist	Fragment	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LVI., p. 14	
Bellochban, N. Uist	" A single flint "	Beveridge's <i>North Uist</i> , p. 230	
Buaile Risary, N. Uist	Seven flints, including a scraper	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 212	
Ceardach Ruadh, Baleshare, N. Uist	Scraper and broken flints	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LVI., p. 16. Beveridge's <i>North Uist</i> , p. 229	
Cnoc a Comhdhalach, N. Uist	Ten flakes	Beveridge's <i>North Uist</i> , pp. 200 and 205	
Dun a'Ghallain, N. Uist	" A single flint "	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 179	
Dun, Eilean Mossam, Loch Fada, N. Uist	" A single flint "	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 154	
Eilean an Tighe, N. Uist	Six scrapers, a knife and 12 flakes	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVI., p. 328; and LVI., 15 Beveridge's <i>North Uist</i> , p. 222	
Geirisclett, N. Uist	Several rough-flaked pieces of flint and a scraper	<i>Ibid.</i> , pp. 207 and 255	
Langass Barp, N. Uist	Scraper and five chips of flint	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVI., p. 327	Found with an arrow-head and a disc of talc. Now in the Nat. Mus. Ant.
Oransay, N. Uist	Three worked flints	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVI., p. 328	One probably a gun-flint.
Rudh an Duin, N. Uist	One small nodule and one flake	Beveridge's, <i>North Uist</i> , p. 218	
Rudha na Traghad, N. Uist	" Two pieces of flint "	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 228	
Shian, Balranald, N. Uist	Three worked flints	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LX., p. 9	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Sithean an Altair, N. Uist	Two flints	Beveridge's <i>North Uist</i> , p. 270	
Sithean Mor, N. Uist	" One flint "	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 273	
Skellar, near Sollas, N. Uist	Three flints	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 235	
Sloc Sabhaidh, N. Uist	" Many flakes of flint "	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 266	
Tota Dunaig, Vallay, N. Uist	Flake	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LVI., p. 14	
Udal, N. Uist	" Four fragments of flint "	Beveridge's <i>North Uist</i> , p. 237	
Vallay Island, N. Uist	" Two coarse nodules and a thin flake; also several pieces of flint "	<i>Ibid.</i> , p. 232 and p. 234	
Kitchen-midden, S. Uist	Five scrapers	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLIX, p. 11	
Cairn at Tote, Skeabost, Skye	150 flakes and 2 rude scrapers	Arch. Journal, 1920, p. 135	These were recovered from the primary interment.
Cairn on Canna	Scraper and several other chips of flint	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LIX., pp. 238-9	
Cave at Uig	Scraper	Glasgow Exhibition (1911) Catalogue, p. 840	
Tumulus, about 500 yards south of Kildonnan, Island of Eigg	Some splinters of flint	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XII., p. 592	

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BRONZE AXES.

FLAT.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Glen Drynoch, Skye	Axe, $5\frac{3}{8} \times 3\frac{1}{8}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLI., p. 418	In Nat. Mus. Ant.

SOCKETED.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Adabrock, Lewis	Axe, $4\frac{1}{8} \times 2\frac{1}{4}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLV., pp. 28-30	In Nat. Mus. Ant. with the rest of the hoard.
Do.	Axe, $2\frac{3}{8} \times 2$ ins.		
Glenmore, Portree, Skye	Axe, $3 \times 1\frac{7}{8}$ ins.	Nat. Mus. Catalogue	In private possession. In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Skye	Axe, $2\frac{3}{4} \times 2$ ins.		
Do.	Axe, $3\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{8}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., I., p. 180	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Kilmuir, Skye	Axe, $3\frac{1}{4} \times 2$ ins.		
Strath, Skye	Axe, $3\frac{5}{8} \times 2\frac{3}{4}$ ins.	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XIX., p. 78	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Island of Eigg	Axe, $2\frac{3}{4} \times 1\frac{5}{8}$ ins.	Nat. Mus. Ant. Catalogue	In Nat. Mus. Ant.

BRONZE SPEAR-HEADS.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Adabrock, Lewis	Spear-head, $4\frac{5}{8}$ ins. long	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLV., p. 30	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Ness, Lewis	Spear-head, wants socket	—	In private possession.
Point of Sleat, Skye	Two spear-heads, $7\frac{3}{4}$ ins. long (Fig. 3)	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XIII., 327	
Skye	Spear-head, $6\frac{1}{2}$ ins. long	Nat. Mus. Ant. Catalogue, p. 138 DG. 34	In Nat. Mus. Ant.

BRONZE LEAF-SHAPED SWORDS.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Aird, South Dell, Lewis	Sword, 24 ins. long ; and portion of another, $9\frac{3}{4}$ ins. long	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXVII., pp. 38-41	Found together. In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Iochdar, S. Uist	Two swords, one 24 ins. long ; and another, 27 ins. long	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., VI., pp. 252-3 and p. 271	Found together "in their leather sheaths." In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Lynedale, near Loch Greshornish, Skye	Sword, about 2 feet long	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XIII., p. 326	Now in British Museum.
Point of Sleat, Skye	Sword, $22\frac{1}{2}$ ins. long (Fig. 3)	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XIII., p. 326	Found together. In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Rigg, Isle of Skye	Two swords, one $28\frac{3}{4}$ ins. long ; and another, $26\frac{1}{2}$ ins. long	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXI., pp. 220-1	
Skye	Sword, 26 ins. long	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XIV., pp. 96-7	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Do.	Sword, 22 ins. long, with round, hollow pommel	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XIII., p. 326	Figured in <i>Pennant's Tour</i> , II., p. 334 ; Pl. XLIV.
Trumpan, Waternish, Skye	Sword, $23\frac{1}{4}$ ins. long	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXIII., pp. 258-61	

THE OUTER HEBRIDES, SKYE AND THE SMALL ISLES

MISCELLANEOUS BRONZE OBJECTS.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Adabrock, Lewis	Two fragments of thin-beaten bronze, parts of a bowl	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLV., pp. 27-46	These items formed part of a hoard. They are now in the Nat. Mus. Ant. with the other items from the deposit.
Do.	Socketed gouge, $2\frac{5}{8}$ × $1\frac{3}{8}$ ins.	<i>Ibid.</i>	
Do.	Tanged chisel, $2\frac{3}{4}$ ins. in length	<i>Ibid.</i>	
Do.	Socketed hammer, $2\frac{5}{8}$ ins. in length	<i>Ibid.</i>	
Do.	Three razor blades, respectively $2\frac{3}{4}$, 3 and 3 ins. in length (Fig. 4)	<i>Ibid.</i>	
Kyleakin, Skye	Bronze caldron, 20 ins. diameter by 10 ins. high	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XIX., pp. 8 and 309-15	Found with several small kegs of butter. In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Point of Sleat, Skye	Curved implement of very rare form	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., VIII., p. 310	Part of a hoard. In Nat. Mus. Ant.

BRONZE HOARDS.*

LOCALITY	Socketed Axes.	Spear-heads Rivet Holes.	Swords.	Gouges.	Curved Tools.	Razors.	MISCELLANEOUS RELICS.	RECORDED.
Adabrock, Ness, Lewis	2	1	—	1	—	3	One chisel, one hammer, part of bronze bowl, 2 whetstones, 1 gold bead, 1 glass bead, 2 amber-beads, two fragments of thin-beaten bronze	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLV., pp. 27-46; LVII., pp. 123-66
Aird, S. Dell, Barvas, Lewis	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	<i>Ibid.</i> , XXVII., p. 38; and LVII., pp. 123-166
Iochdar, S. Uist	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	<i>Ibid.</i> , VI., p. 252; LVII., pp. 123-66
Point of Sleat, Skye	—	2	1	—	1	—	One pin with cup-shaped head (Fig. 3)	<i>Ibid.</i> , III., pp. 101-6; LVII., pp. 123-66
Rigg, Skye	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	<i>Ibid.</i> , XXI., pp. 9 and 220; LVII., pp. 123-66

* For details, see List of Bronze Implements.

RELICS OF VIKING AGE

LEWIS.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Lewis	Seventy-eight chessmen of walrus ivory (Fig. 14)	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXIII., pp. 9-14	See p. 24.
Valtos, Uig	Two large, oval, hollow, embossed brass brooches (Fig. 11)	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., L., pp. 181-9	Mingled with other relics showing Celtic influence.

ST KILDA.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
St Kilda	Two oval brooches	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., X., pp. 555-6	Now in Kelvingrove Museum, Glasgow. One has been figured by Worsaae.

ENSAY.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Grave in west end of island	"Pair of scales made of brass" and a little hammer	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., X., p. 556	The "scales" were probably brooches.

SANGAY.*

"BETWEEN THE ISLES OF UIST AND HARRIS." †

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Sangay	Pair of brooches; brass pin; brass needle	† Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., X., p. 555	One brooch is figured in <i>Vetusta Monumenta</i> of S. of A. London, Vol. II., Pl. XX.

* Cannot be identified.

THE OUTER HEBRIDES, SKYE AND THE SMALL ISLES

NORTH UIST.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
North Uist	Two iron rivets, with lozenge-shaped heads of Viking type	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LVI., p. 17	In Nat. Mus. Ant. Cf. Art. No. 283.

SOUTH UIST.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Eriskay, S. Uist	Bronze hilt and pommel of Viking sword	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XL., pp. 215 and 347	

BARRA.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Ardvouray	Two oval brooches; a sword, remains of a shield; portions of buckles; whetstone; comb of boxwood	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XLVIII., pp. 307-9	The brooches are in the British Museum.
Grave mound	Iron sword, shield boss and remains of scabbard; whetstone; two oval bowl-shaped brooches; comb of bone	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., X., p. 555	
Kilbar	Runic Cross Slab	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XV., pp. 33-6	Now in Nat. Mus. Ant.

SKYE.

LOCALITY.	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Broch, Dun Beag. Struanmore	Bronze buckle and gold ring	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., LV., p. 127	The buckle is more Scandinavian than Celtic in type.
Monkstadt	Ivory chessmen	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., III., pp. 101-6	One of these chess-pieces is in the Nat. Mus. Ant.
Shore near Storr Rock	Hoard of broken silver ornaments; Anglo-Saxon and Cufic Coins	Proc. Soc. Ant. Soc., XXVI., p. 225	In Nat. Mus. Ant.
Sleat	Pin	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XXVII., p. 351	
Tote, Skeabost	A heavy iron axe; ivory bead; bronze pin; whetstone; other fragments of iron probably remains of a shield	Arch. Journal, 1920, pp. 135-6	These were recovered from the secondary interment.

HISTORICAL MONUMENTS (SCOTLAND) COMMISSION

CANNA.

LOCALITY.	ITEM.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Site of memorial church	Long pin of Viking type with ring head	—	In private possession.

EIGG.

LOCALITY	ITEMS.	RECORDED.	REMARKS.
Grave-mound No. 1, situated between the church of St Donnan and the shore	Sword-hilt of bronze; buckle or belt-fastener attached to a thin plate of bronze or brass; foot of a large three-footed pot; whetstone and portions of sword	Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot., XII., pp. 577-97	Most of these relics are now in the Nat. Mus. Ant.
Do. No. 2	Iron sword and sheath; axe-head and spear-head of iron; penannular brooch of bronze plated with silver; belt clasp with scroll pattern; whetstone and portions of dress	<i>Ibid</i>	Do.
Do. No. 3	Fragments of iron sword; plain penannular brooch of bronze with knobbed ends; beads of amber and jet; whetstone	<i>Ibid.</i>	Do.
West side of island	Stem and stern-post (?) of boat	<i>Ibid.</i>	Do.

INVENTORY

OF THE ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS AND CONSTRUCTIONS IN THE OUTER HEBRIDES, SKYE AND THE SMALL ISLES ASSIGNED TO A DATE BEFORE 1707

(The order is that of the islands divided into or grouped in parishes. The Roman numerals at the end of each article give the O.S. map on 6-inch scale on which the position of the subject of the article may be found. The date is that of the visit upon which the account is based. The term *SITES* includes Monuments indeterminate in character and such as were inaccessible.)

LEWIS AND HARRIS.

PARISH OF BARVAS.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES, ETC.

1. **Church, Dalemore.**—This church, near the shore end of a valley about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of the eighth milestone on the road from Callanish to Barvas, is of comparatively recent date. It is an ordinary oblong structure with no features of interest.

Lewis xii. 28 June 1914.

2. **Teampull Eoin ("John"), Bragor.**—Within a graveyard on the eastern shore of Port More, Bragor, and $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile north of Bragor village, is the ruin of Teampull Eoin. (Figs. 19, 41.) It

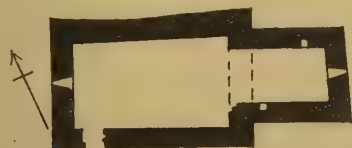


FIG. 20.—Teampull Eoin (No. 2).

consists of a nave and chancel built of rough rubble, and the main axis lies nearly north-west by south-east, being 24 degrees from the direction of true east and west. The nave dimensions average 19 feet 9 inches by 11 feet internally, with walls from 2 feet 5 inches to 3 feet 5 inches in thickness. The gables are 11 feet 2 inches from floor to apex, and the side walls 6 feet high. It is entered by a door in the west end of the south wall, the west jamb, which has been checked, only remaining with square sconsons.

A single flat-headed window, 3 feet 9 inches from floor to sill and 2 feet 11 inches high by 4 inches externally, splayed inwardly to a width of 1 foot 8 inches, is placed in the centre of the west gable. An opening through the 3-foot wall at the east end of the nave, the full width of the chancel and very much broken, has no doubt been the chancel arch, which seems to have had its springing about 2 feet 3 inches from the present floor level. The chancel, measuring internally about 9 feet long by 6 feet 10 inches wide, is lower than the nave, reaching only to a height of 7 feet 4 inches at the gable, which has in the centre a window 1 foot 2 inches from the floor and 3 feet high by 9 inches wide outside. Two small recesses 1 foot high by 1 foot wide by 1 foot 3 inches deep are in the walls at ground level, one in the north-east and one in the south-west of the chancel. The building may be of 15th century date.

Lewis viii. 30 June 1921.

3. **Teampull Pheadair ("Peter"), Shader.**—On the shore at the northern extremity of Mol Eire, some $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-west of Upper Shader, and about 15 yards from the edge of the rock Craig Gille Phadruig, on which it is built, are the grass-covered foundations of Teampull Pheadair, orientated east-south-east and west-north-west, and measuring about $33\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length outside. It seems to have consisted of a nave and chancel, as 22 feet from the western end, where the northern wall has been laid bare by agricultural operations, there is a return of 2 feet 2 inches in the wall. The nave being

about 16 feet 8 inches wide outside, the chancel would be about 12 feet 4 inches wide externally and about $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length. Where laid bare the northern wall remains from 1 foot 3 inches to 2 feet 3 inches in height.

Lewis iv. 11 July 1914.

4. **Teampull Bhrighid ("Bride"), Mid Borve.**—On the right bank of the Grundale Burn, within some 200 yards of its mouth on the shore of Eire, about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile north-west of Mid Borve, is the ruin of Teampull Bhrighid. It is now represented by an irregular grassy mound in an old burying ground, stones having been removed since 1888, when the land was given to crofters. It lies nearly east-north-east and west-north-west.

Lewis v. 11 July 1914.

5. **Teampull nan Crò' Naomh.**—Near the sea-shore and about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile west-north-west of Galson farmhouse, Teampull nan Crò' Naomh is situated within an old graveyard. It is



FIG. 21.—Teampull nan Crò' Naomh (No. 6).

oblong on plan and orientated. The two gables are destroyed, and the earth outside the church reaches almost to the wall heads, which are roughly 5 feet high on the inside. The church, measuring 19 feet by 12 feet 1 inch internally, with walls averaging 2 feet 6 inches in thickness, is entered by a door 2 feet 5 inches in width in the west of the south wall. Thirteen inches from the outside face this opening has $3\frac{1}{2}$ -inch checks, with bar-hole on either side and squared sconsons. The building has been lit by three windows at the east end, one window, 6 inches wide and splayed inwardly with stepped sills, being placed in each of the side walls and the other in the centre of the east gable; the last appears to have been 1 foot 6 inches wide. In the north wall are three (? putlog) holes 7 inches wide, and three are also seen in the

south wall, but only two are in a corresponding position to the former.

As it stands, the name would appear to mean Church of the Holy Blood, but Martin refers to the building as "Holy Cross Church in Galan."

Lewis ii. 28 June 1921.

6. **Teampull Pheadair ("Peter"), Swanibost.**—In a kirkyard on the right bank of the Swanibost River, about 400 yards from its mouth and $\frac{7}{8}$ mile north-west of the township of Swanibost, are the remains of Teampull Pheadair, which has been a rectangular building orientated east by south and west by north. The greater part of the western gable is all that remains, the wall being 3 feet thick. About the height of the wall head is a scarcement of 4 or 5 inches in width, and two putlog holes appear in the gable above. In the centre is a widely splayed window 3 feet 4 inches high and 6 inches broad outside and 4 feet 8 inches high and 3 feet 4 inches wide inside.

Lewis iii. 14 July 1914.

7. **Teampull Ronaìdh ("Ronan"), Eoropie, Ness.**—The ruin of Teampull Ronaìdh, distinguished by an irregular rectangular stony mound about 24 feet long by 18 feet broad and orientated almost east-south-east and west-north-west, is on the summit of a slight elevation 500 yards north-east of Eoropie church (No. 8) and about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south by east of the Butt of Lewis Lighthouse.

Lewis i. 13 July 1914.

8. **Teampull Mholuidh, Eoropie.**—Standing in a field about 250 yards to the north of Eoropie village is Teampull Mholuidh, which has been roofed and restored in recent times and is in good condition. Measuring internally 44 feet by 17 feet 8 inches it is oblong on plan, with a projecting sacristy 10 feet 1 inch by 5 feet 2 inches internally on the north-east, and a projecting chapel 9 feet by 5 feet 3 inches internally on the south-east, and lies almost due east and west. The main walls are 15 feet 10 inches high and 2 feet 9 inches in thickness, while the projecting walls are slightly thinner and are covered with lean-to

roofs. The door, 2 feet 5 inches wide, is near the west end of the south wall, and is arched semicircularly and splayed internally, the rybats and front arch of sandstone having been inserted, a repair which has also been made in the north, south and east windows. The single main window in the north wall is at a higher level than the corresponding one in the south, both being splayed internally. Two small openings close together and 1 foot wide are placed near the wall head in the east end of each of the north and south walls. In the centre of each gable is a long narrow window,

window, 5 inches wide and splayed internally, while a similar window 9 inches wide looks into the east end of the church. A splayed plinth (modern), projecting 1 foot 6 inches, runs along the west wall and turns the south-west corner and is also seen on the middle of the east wall. The original building may date from the 14th century. (Fig. 15.)

BELL.—A good bell in the church measures 1 foot 3 inches in diameter at mouth, 8 inches at crown, and is $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches high. The canons are rounded and two rings circle the crown, which meets the shoulder in a third ring. The waist is rather straight and the widening soundbow comparatively small. There are two bands at the bottom near the lip, the upper being inscribed all round with the words TE DEUM LAUDAMVS 1631, L.W. in roman letters $\frac{5}{8}$ inch high, and the lower with a very small pattern, now indistinct. The bell is said to have come from the old church of St Lennan, Stornoway.

Martin associates this "Church of St Malvay" with "an ancient custom to sacrifice to a sea-god called Shony, at Hallow-tide," which he describes.

Lewis i. 28 June 1921.

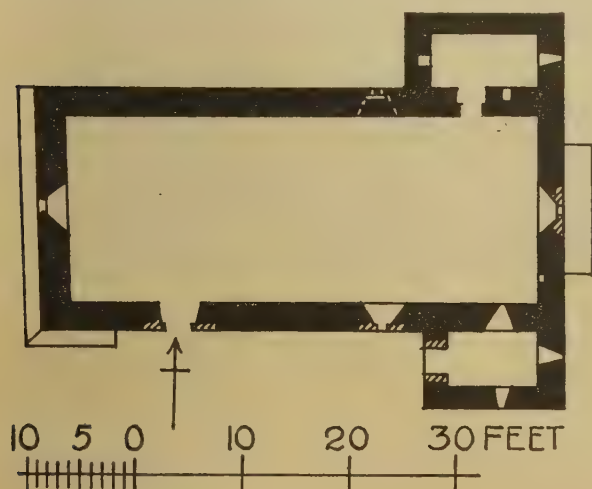


FIG. 22.—Teampull Mholuidh, Eoropie (No. 8).

the western, 1 foot 3 inches wide with rybats much decayed, being arched semicircularly and splayed internally, while the eastern, 1 foot 1 inch wide with new rybats, also splayed internally, has a pointed rere-arch with moulded arris. Three putlog holes are seen about the centre of the north wall and two opposite on the south. South of the east window is a recess 10 inches wide and 11 inches deep. A door 2 feet 2 inches wide, with 1 foot 2 inch jambs, checks and square sconsons, leads to the sacristy, which has a slit window 6 inches wide, splayed inwardly in the east wall, a small lamp recess 11 inches wide by 1 foot $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep in the south wall and another 1 foot 1 inch wide by 1 foot 2 inches deep in the west wall. The chapel is entered from outside the church by a door in the west wall, the present sconsons of which have been inserted. In the centre of the south and east walls is a slit

9. Church, etc., North Rona.—Midway down the steep southern side of the island towards the western end are the remains of a group of primitive structures. Of these the most easterly is the church which lies within a small graveyard enclosed by a heavy drystone dyke. The church is orientated and is two chambered; the eastern division, which is of archaic construction, is conjectured to be an early, possibly Celtic, chapel, and is manifestly much older than the western division, from which it is divided by a screen wall containing a narrow doorway with a small window above. It thus probably served as a chancel to the western portion or nave. Both portions are ruinous and have deteriorated since the date of the description in Muir's *Ecclesiological Notes*. Throughout the masonry is similar, flat slabs built dry and pinned with smaller stones, but the chapel has been pointed internally with clay and sand, and at a subsequent period re-pointed with a rough lime mortar above the earlier pointing. The nave has been roofed

with timber, the chapel with stone flags. The floors have silted up considerably, filling up the door between nave and chapel and rendering access to the latter part possible only through a breach in the east gable; the entrance to the church is closed with stones.

On plan the church is L-shaped, for the older chancel is narrower than the nave and the north walls are fairly in alignment. The chancel, which measures internally $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 7 feet, is built with walls that converge as they rise, the encorblement being 2 feet on the lateral walls and considerably less on the gables (not measurable, as the walls are

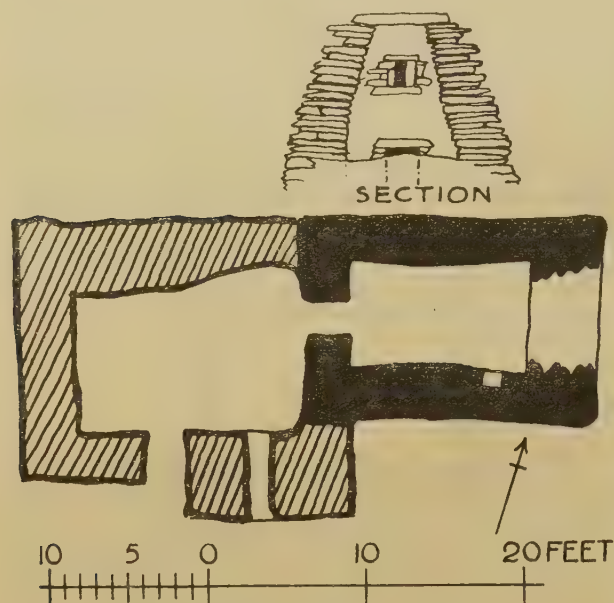


FIG. 23.—Church, North Rona (No. 9).

breached); the present height internally is 8 feet 7 inches. The south wall contains a small aumbry or credence niche 1 foot broad, 10 inches deep and 1 foot high; the doorway in the screen wall is $2\frac{1}{4}$ feet wide. The window is 3 feet 10 inches above the door. It is $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad by $17\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and was evidently beneath the nave roof. There is now no trace of an eastern window or of an altar slab.

The nave, averaging $8\frac{3}{4}$ feet broad and 14 feet in length within walls 3 to 5 feet in thickness, contains a south doorway and a small window adjoining. Other windows probably existed, but the lateral walls are now reduced to an average height of 4 feet above the present floor level. (Figs. 24, 25.)

CROSSES.—In the churchyard are a number of small rude stone crosses, for the most part beneath the turf; the two that are best preserved measure respectively 2 feet 9 inches and 3 feet 8 inches in length. They appear to be unsculptured.

PRIMITIVE DWELLINGS.—Immediately west of the church are a number of primitive dwellings, including a central, oblong enclosure with rounded angles some 30 feet long by 11 feet broad and 7 feet high, formed in drystone walling and evidently roofed with timber. On one side within the wall, which is in places 13 and 14 feet in thickness, is a low flagged passage or gallery $2\frac{1}{4}$ feet wide, while on the other side three smaller oval "beehive" chambers are attached.

STONE SETTINGS.—Dotted over the crest of the ridge above the village are a series of small oval settings of stones averaging 13 feet in diameter, which are not unlike the remains of burial cairns. They appear, however, to be cradlings for drying peats, and are in proximity to the peat cuttings.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—Martin has a long interesting account of the island and its earlier inhabitants derived from natives of Lewis who had visited it. The island belonged to the minister of the parish of Barvas as part of his glebe. "There is a chapel here dedicated to St Ronan, fenced with a stone wall round it; and they take care to keep it neat and clean, and sweep it every day. There is an altar in it, on which there lies a big plank of wood about 10 feet in length; every foot has a hole in it, and in every hole a stone, to which the natives ascribe several virtues; one of them is singular, as they say, for promoting speedy delivery to a woman in travail. . . . There are only five families in this small island, and every tenant hath his dwelling-house, a barn, a house, where their best effects are preserved, a house for their cattle, and a porch on each side of the door to keep off the rain or snow. Their houses are built with stone, and thatched with straw, which is kept down with ropes of the same poised with stones." Under various misfortunes the old population had entirely perished some fourteen years before, and of a later colony he could give no information.

Lewis i. 14 July 1924.



FIG. 24—View from North-West.

J. F. MacKenzie.



FIG. 25—View from North: Chapel to left, Nave to right.

CHURCH, NORTH RONA (No. 9).

To face p. 4.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.
(BROCHS.)

10. Dun, Loch an Duna, Bragor.—Fully $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile south of the village of South Bragor, and on a low-lying strip of land projecting into the water on the north-east shore of Loch an Duna, are the ruins of a broch Dun Loch an Duna. On the south the wall is still from 12 to 14 feet high, and on the north about 8 feet, but the building is so covered with debris and loose stones that its features are not clearly



FIG. 26.—Dun, Loch an Duna, Bragor (No. 10).

discernible. The plan is circular, having an internal diameter of 30 feet, with outer and inner walls from 10 to 12 feet in thickness over all, the outer face showing a batter. The doorway on the south-east, 2 feet 5 inches wide on the outside, seemingly has no checks or barhole; but it widens slightly towards the centre of the wall and narrows again towards the inside. In the south jamb, 5 feet 6 inches from the exterior, an opening 2 feet wide apparently leads into a small chamber, but owing to the main entrance being blocked up, neither it nor this cell can be entered for an accurate survey. In the tumbled down wall on the north-west a cell with door blocked up

can be traced, and on the north is one jamb of an opening, which seems to be the entrance to the gallery stair.¹ From this point wall-faces indicate a gallery running round by the east, till it reaches the more broken part of the wall on the west. There is a void 2 feet 8 inches wide rising from the scarcement in the inner wall immediately over the entrance passage. The scarcement, 6 to 12 inches wide, is corbelled out all round the interior, and is approximately 9 feet 6 inches above the ground outside the entrance. (Fig. 33.)

¹ Capt. Thomas shows a cell here. *Archæologia Scot.*, V., Part III., Plate XLVII.

Lewis viii. 30 June 1921.

11. Dun Borge, Mid Borge.—The remains of Dun Borge lie on the undulating ground, 120 feet above sea-level, 1 mile north-north-east of the clachan of Bail Ard, near Borge,



FIG. 27.—Dun Borge, Mid Borge (No. 11).

and $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile to the north-west of the main road to the Port of Ness. It is so much destroyed that the outline in parts is not perceptible, and nowhere is it higher than 4 feet above the present ground level, while the chambers and openings in the walls are indistinct and the interior is covered with debris.

Circular on plan, but slightly flattened on the south-west, its internal diameter averages 31 feet 6 inches, and the walls vary from 9 feet to 10 feet 6 inches in thickness. It has evidently been entered from the west. An unusually large number of cells are noticed, there being four in the southern half and a suggestion of another in the north-east. On the south of the latter, about 8 feet of a gallery may have been the stair to the upper stories. There are vestiges of a gallery having occupied the north and north-western portion. The doorways are concealed by fallen stones.

For a short distance a scarcement is visible, but it is no more than 20 inches above the present outside level, which suggests several feet of debris inside and a similar height of growth of the peat surround. Later, on removing some stones, the interior of a cell was seen, the bottom of which appeared to be flagged, at a depth of about 7 or 8 feet below the scarcement.

Lewis v. 28 June 1921.

(DUNS.)

12. Promontory Fort, Rudha na Berie, South Shawbost.—Fronting the Atlantic on the west coast of Lewis, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west of the township of South Shawbost, is a rocky peninsula, Rudha na Berie, rising over 100 feet above sea-level and connected with the land by a narrow neck. The promontory reaches its highest point at the seaward extremity, and measures about 230 yards in length and 100 yards in breadth. Across the isthmus at its narrowest part are the remains of a stone wall stretching from the edge of the cliff on the north to within 12 feet of the edge of the precipice on the south, this space being left as an entrance to the fort. The north or inner side of this entrance is still traceable. The rampart has been of considerable strength, as in parts the tumbled stones cover a width of 23 feet. It measures about 102 feet in length, and the outer foundation course can still be traced for the greater part of that distance. Some 30 feet from the outside of this defence is a shallow ditch 7 feet wide with a low bank on either side rising $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the bottom of the cut.

A short distance from the inner side of the entrance, almost abutting on the edge of the

cliff on the south side of the peninsula, there are traces of the foundations of one, if not two, small enclosures.

Lewis vii (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

13. Dun Mara, Airnistean, Cross.—On a promontory rising about 40 feet above the high-water mark, immediately to the north of Cross sands and about 1 mile north-west of the township of Cross, are the much dilapidated remains of Dun Mara. It is oval on plan, the main axis running about north-west and south-east; its external length being 92 feet and breadth 72 feet. It has been surrounded by a stone wall, which to the north-east shows a thickness of 7 feet 6 inches. Towards the south-west the outer course of building is entirely obliterated, but one or two courses are still in position round the remainder of the circumference. In the interior of the dun are traces of two oval buildings, their main axes running in the same direction as that of the dun. The enclosure to the south shows only the curve of the western end, while that to the north, being rather better defined, shows its wall varying from 5 feet to 9 feet in width along the greater part of the flanks and round the western extremity. It is erected about 6 feet 6 inches within the northern flank of the dun and about 19 feet from the western end, and has an internal width of 15 feet, but its length is not at present ascertainable.

There seems to have been an outer defence in the form of a ditch, 20 feet broad and 2 feet deep, cut from the edge of the cliffs on either side of the promontory and following a curve about 31 feet distant from the wall of the dun. Towards the northern end of the ditch there is evidence of a stone rampart built on the counterscarp.

Lewis iii. 14 July 1914.

14. Dun on Loch Shiavat.—The dun is situated near the southern extremity of the loch on a small island. It is circular in shape and might be about 40 feet in diameter, with a wall 4 feet in height and about 4 feet in thickness, extending for about half its circumference on the north-east and south sides; on the west side it has been reduced to ground level. The outer face of the remaining wall

had been regularly built with large rectangular stones, which, as the loch was high from recent rains, rose straight from the water's edge. Remains of a causeway leading to the dun ran from the south-west side of the loch. Examination had to be made from the shore of the loch.

Lewis ii (unnoted). 15 August 1923.

15. Dun Eistean, Port of Ness.—Dun Eistean is a tidal islet about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-north-west of Port of Ness, rising some 60 feet above the sea and separated from the land by a rocky chasm, the grass-covered plateau on the summit being reached with difficulty even at low water. The plateau reaches its highest point near its northern extremity, and here are the remains of a rectangular stone building 10 feet in height, overgrown with grass, lying east-south-east and 115 degrees west-north-west, and measuring 24 feet in length by 18 feet 6 inches in breadth externally. Some 35 yards south of the building is an artificial pond banked on the east and excavated on the west, which showed some moisture at its lowest part. About 80 yards from the house, along the edge of the cleft in the rock to the south, are the remains of a parapet of stone and earth, 6 feet wide and 1½ feet high, behind which are the foundations of a group of small huts impinging on one another. There is an oval enclosure, 29 feet in length and 13 feet in breadth internally, within which are a hut-circle 6½ feet in diameter and three other small oval compartments.

Lewis i. 13 July 1914.

STANDING STONES AND CAIRN.

16. Standing Stone, Clach an Trushal, Ballantrushal.—On the gentle slope of a hillside, falling towards the north about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north-west of the fifteenth milestone on the Stornoway and Ness road, in the township of Ballantrushal, at an elevation of about 100 feet above sea-level, is the magnificent monolith, Clach an Trushal, standing 18 feet 10 inches above ground, and measuring about 6 feet in width, 3 feet 9 inches at its greatest thickness, and 15 feet 7 inches in girth at the base, which is somewhat lenticular on plan. The stone diminishes very slightly in width

for the greater part of its height, but from about half-way up it tapers to a thickness of about 1 foot at the blunt top. It faces nearly east-south-east and slants slightly to the south and west. (Fig. 269.)

Lewis iv. 10 July 1914.

17. Circle and Denuded Cairn, Steinacleit, Shader.—Overlooking Loch an Duin, $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile south-south-east of Lower Shader Schoolhouse and at an elevation of 150 feet above sea-level, are the remnants of a chambered cairn with stone circle kerb marked Steinacleit on O.S. map. (Figs. 49, 50.)

Amid the loose stones of the cairn to the south of the interior are three upright stones, probably of the chamber, and the circle kerb, which is about 50 feet in diameter, consists of ten uprights, mostly broad on face and thin on edge; there are indications of four others beneath the surface of the ground, while there are six prostrate stones, one of which on the south markedly resembles the shape of an axe. It is 5 feet long, 2 feet 2 inches broad at base, diminishing by a concave side to 1 foot 8 inches about the middle, where it projects 1 foot 4½ inches on the other side to a narrowing edge and finishes 2 feet 8 inches along the top. The greatest thickness of base is 1 foot 1 inch, reduced to an arris on one side by 7-inch and 9-inch splays, and to 7 inches at the other by more gradual splays. These splays run the whole length of the stone and reduce the thickness to 2 inches at what would be termed the cutting edge of the axe. The character of the stone may be quite fortuitous.

The majority of the cairn stones are set in the south-east, where the ring seems to overlap and where one stone is at right angles to the others, which may indicate an entrance.

Nearly south-east, and 145 feet distant (cf. plan, Fig. 29), is a standing stone 5½ feet high, pentagonal on plan, with sides averaging about 1 foot; and 540 yards away, in a direction 4 degrees east of true north, is Clach Stei Lin or Clachan Mora Steinacleit, described in Article No. 18.

The site is surrounded by the usual peat bog, and recent digging for turf has revealed an exceptional feature, at a depth of 3 to 4 feet beneath the surface, in a ring of stones forming

an oval enclosure, in the south-west of which the cairn is situated. The enclosure lies east and west and measures 270 and 183 feet respectively in greatest length and breadth. No

single stone at others. The turf is not wholly removed, but the stones are sufficiently exposed to assume a continuity of ring, which at most is 192 feet and at least 50 feet distant from the centre of the cairn.

Lewis v. 20 June 1921.



FIG. 28.—Circle and Cairn, Steinacleit (No. 17).

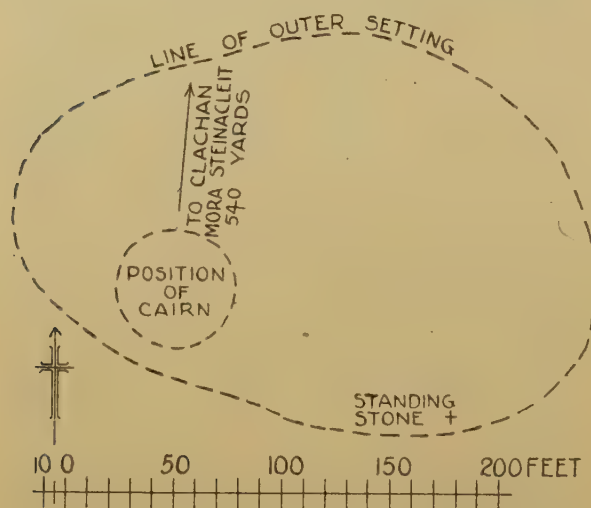


FIG. 29.—Stone Setting and Cairn, Steinacleit (No. 17).

attempt seems to have been made to form a wall of the ring, which is composed of fairly close-set stones single in height, and which varies from 5 or 6 feet broad in parts to a

18. Standing Stone, Clach Stei Lin or Clachan Mora Steinacleit, Shader.—About 450 yards south-east of the school at Lower Shader, on an almost level stretch of muirland, at an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level, is a pointed standing stone marked Clachan Mora Steinacleit on O.S. map, but known to the people in the neighbourhood as Clach Stei Lin. It measures 5 feet high, 2 feet 2 inches broad and 1 foot 1 inch thick. Lying south by west of this stone at a distance of some 141 feet is a long prostrate stone partly buried in the ground, 12 feet 3 inches in length and 2 feet 9 inches in breadth. At 42 feet to the south-east of the erect pillar is a slab at least 5 feet in length and 1 foot 3 inches in breadth also embedded in peat. The two last stones have much the appearance of overthrown standing stones, in which case they probably are the remains of a circle. To the west of the standing stone and the prostrate pillar to the south is a peaty bank forming an arc of a circle, the south-western portion of which contains a considerable quantity of stones.

Lewis v. 10 July 1914.

19. Standing Stones, Clach Stein.—On the brow of the brae overlooking Ness from the north, about 500 yards north-west of Port of Ness, at an elevation of over 100 feet above sea-level, are three large boulders, two erect and one prostrate. The most northerly stone is 4 feet 8 inches high and 10 feet 10 inches in girth at the base; the other erect stone, a rough boulder, 3 feet 4 inches high and 9 feet 3 inches in girth, lies 10 feet 6 inches to the south-west, and the prostrate slab, an irregularly-shaped stone, 6 feet in length, 4 feet in breadth and 21 inches thick, lies about 8 feet to the south-south-west of the former and 3 feet 1 inch from the latter.

Lewis iii. 14 July 1914.



FIG. 30—Dun Baravat, Great Bernera (No. 71).



FIG. 31—Dun Cromore (No. 38).



FIG. 32—Detail of Walling, Dun Cromore (No. 38).



FIG. 33—Dun, Loch an Duna, Bragor (No. 10):



FIG. 34—Standing Stones, Barraglom, Great Bernera (No. 86).



FIG. 35 —The Chamber, Luchruban, Pignies' Isle (No. 22).



FIG. 36—Luchruban, Pignies' Isle (No. 22): arrows show position of structure.

MISCELLANEOUS.

20. Chambered Earth-house, Galson.—On the beach about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile north of Galson farmhouse, between the road leading to the shore and the south Galson River, is a large sandbank, which contains at about a foot from its surface level a compact layer of kitchen midden deposit. Several feet below this deposit, structural formations were found, the most important of which was a chambered earth-house. Entrance to the earth-house had been obtained by a tunnel-like passage way, which measured 21 feet in length with an average height of 2 feet and 1 foot 8 inches in width. The passage way which led from the face of the slope into the heart of the bank terminated abruptly, but contiguous with the last 7 feet or so was the wall of a structure which measured 34 feet in length and 10 feet in breadth. The structure consisted of four roofless, nearly oval, or pear-shaped cells, continued within an exterior wall of drystone masonry, the wall varying in height from 3 feet to over 6 feet and averaging 1 foot 6 inches in thickness.

The floor of the chambers was made of clay, and in each there were found quantities of shells, fragments of pottery, charcoal and bones of animals which had been split in order to obtain the marrow.

Particular objects found in the interior of the chambers were a chisel of bone, a quartzite pebble with longitudinal grooves used for striking fire, and a large knocking-stone found embedded to its top in the clay floor. Relics from the kitchen midden consisted of ring-headed pins of bronze, a small iron knife, clay loom weights, a weaving comb of deer-horn, deer-horn picks, saddle querns, awls and needles of bone, bone pins, small-toothed combs and quantities of pottery fragments decorated and plain. The earth-house was excavated in 1923. Cf. *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. LVIII. (1923-4), pp. 185-203.

Lewis ii (unnoted). September 1923.

21. Kitchen Middens, Galson.—About 500 yards north-east along the coast from Teampull nan Crò' Naomh (No. 6) are some very fine kitchen middens 3 feet in depth on the edge of the bluff washed by the sea. Plenty of shells,

bones and pottery are visible. One piece showed the ornamental band applied to it.

Lewis ii (unnoted). 14 July 1914.

22. Luchruban, Pigmies' Isle, Butt of Lewis.—On the sea-coast barely 1 mile west-south-west of the Butt of Lewis is a precipitous grass-covered rock rising some 60 or 70 feet above the sea, and isolated by a deep cleft from the mainland. It is known as Luchruban, or the Pigmies' Isle. The ascent is dangerous, though it can be made even at high water.

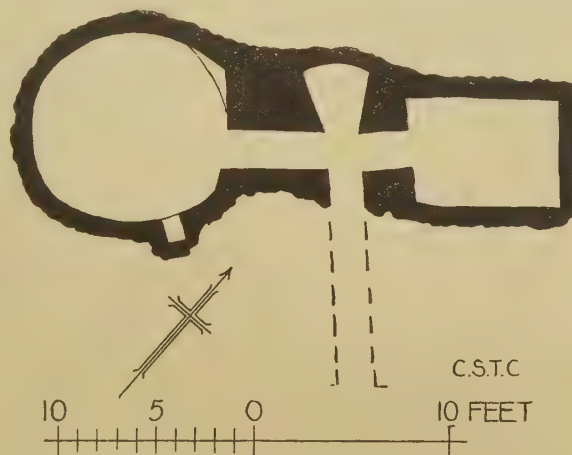


FIG. 37.—Luchruban, Pigmies' Isle (No. 22).

At the south-eastern corner of the summit, which measures about 80 feet by 70 feet, is a peculiar construction which has been partly built underground, the interior showing good drystone masonry, but heaped up outside.

The building, which lies north-east and south-west, comprises an almost circular chamber of about 10 feet diameter at the south-western end, connected by a passage 9 feet long and 2 feet wide to a rectangular chamber 8 feet long and $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide. At approximately right angles to the southern side of this passage, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the rectangular chamber, is the inner opening, 2 feet 2 inches wide, of what seems to be an entrance way about 11 feet long. Opposite this on the other side is a recess $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep and 2 feet 1 inch at front, widening to $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet at back, where it is concave on plan. Between this recess and the circular chamber are two small boles, 8 inches broad and 6 inches high and 15 inches broad and 11 inches high respectively, in the wall about

3 feet from the foundation. At the bottom of the wall in the south-eastern arc of the circular chamber is a recess 1 foot 4 inches broad, 11 inches high and 1 foot 6 inches deep. There is now no trace of a drain in the floor; the structure as a whole is collapsing. (Figs. 35, 36.)

The circular walling is $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, and that of the rectangular chamber is $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet high.

The whole building has been surrounded by a wall probably of stone, now much dilapidated and measuring 26 feet broad and 1 foot 3 inches high, forming an oval enclosure. While it almost encroaches on the chambers at one point, it is 18 feet distant at another.

Cf. Dean Monro on "The Pigmies Ile." *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. XXXIX., p. 248; also for character of structure Art. No. 106.

Lewis i. 28 July 1921.

23. Kitchen Middens, Teampull Eoin.—A recently dug grave showed that there are kitchen middens in the burying ground and on the narrow shelf between the enclosing wall and the eroded face above the sea-shore. These contain food refuse and numerous fragments of pottery, as well as many stones, probably the remains of hut circles. There are many fine fractured pot boilers about, and a hammer stone and a small stone disc (potlid?) were also turned up.

Lewis viii (unnoted). 29 June 1914.

SITES.

24. Na h'Annaidean, Shader.—The name Na h'Annaidean ("the Annait's") is applied to a stretch of green pasture extending inland about 200 yards from the shore, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north-east of Teampull Pheadair (No. 3). Near the top of the grassy stretch is *Tobar Aindreas* (St Andrew's Well), now filled up. This well, mentioned by Martin, was quite defined 20 years ago.

Lewis v (unnoted). 11 July 1914.

25. Church of St Mary the Virgin, by the shore at Barvas, is covered with drifted sand.

Lewis iii (unnoted).

26. Teampull Thomais, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north-west of Teampull Pheadair. There are no remains of building.

Lewis iii.

27. Teampull Thomais.—The site of another church of same name was pointed out by a local informant. It lies about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-west of Lionel crossroads and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile due south of Eoropie.

Lewis iii (unnoted).

28. Dun, Loch an Duin, Shader.—About 50 yards from the western shore of Loch an Duin, Shader, is a small island covered to the water's edge with a heap of tumbled stones, rising about 10 feet above the surface of the loch, the remains of a dun. It is connected with the shore by a causeway mostly submerged. Viewed from the shore, small portions of the outer wall seem to be still in position. The place under present conditions is inaccessible.

Nearer the south end of the loch and on the same side there is said to be a submerged building and causeway only once seen above water in the last 20 years.

Lewis v. 11 July 1914.

29. Dun Sobhuill, Galson.—Entirely obliterated. Just above the sea-shore about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north-east of Galson Farm.

Lewis ii.

30. Dun Sleibhe, Cross.—This dun, which stood 250 yards east of Ness Manse, has entirely disappeared.

Lewis iii.

31. Dun Smiroig, Lionel.

Lewis iii (unnoted).

32. Dun Cleamon, North Dell.

Lewis iii (unnoted). 14 July 1914.

33. Dun, Airnistean, Dell Sands, said to have been a circular tower.

Lewis iii (unnoted).

34. Promontory Fort, Dun Bilascleiter, Ness.—About $\frac{7}{8}$ mile north-west of Cellar Head and $4\frac{1}{4}$ miles south-east of Port of Ness is a narrow promontory with precipitous sides rising more than 150 feet above sea-level, the site of Dun Bilascleiter. It was defended by a rampart of stones erected across the neck of the promontory from cliff to cliff. A modern house, Dun Tower, occupies the site of the rampart, the stones of which were utilised in building the house. There is said to have been a well-built entrance with a guard chamber in the thickness of the rampart on the north side of the gateway.

Lewis vi. 13 July 1914.

35. Duin Othail is a stack of rock about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Port Geiraha. Viewed from the precipice, 150 feet high, which overlooks it by, say, 20 feet, it does not show a vestige of building.

Lewis vi. 3 July 1914.

36. Dun, Loch Baravat, Galson.—On the west side of the road from Stornoway to Ness, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north-east of Galson Lodge, is a small, shallow loch, Loch Baravat. On an islet about 70 feet from the western shore of the loch, with which it is connected by a causeway, is a mound of tumbled stones about 70 feet in diameter and rising 4 feet above the water, the remains of a dun which has been utterly destroyed.

Lewis ii. 14 July 1914.

PARISH OF LOCHS.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURE.

37. St Columb's Church, Eilean Chaluim Chille, Loch Erisort.—This church, which stands in a graveyard on the south-eastern shore of Eilean Chaluim Chille, in Loch Erisort, about 2 miles east by south of Keose, is oblong on plan and measures internally 29 feet 6 inches by 13 feet 3 inches, the walls still standing to an average height of 6 feet and measuring 2 feet 6 inches thick. It is orientated almost due east and west. The door is about the middle of the north wall. A widely splayed window with

rounded top and built up externally opens in the south wall 2 feet 6 inches from the east end. No other windows can now be traced.

Lewis xxxiii. 22 June 1914.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(BROCH.)

38. Dun Cromore, Loch Cromore, Loch Erisort.—On an islet about 50 yards from the end of a promontory on the west side of Loch Cromore, and springing direct from the water's edge, is the ruin of Dun Cromore, sometimes called Dun Ban; a broch occupying the south-eastern part, with the remainder to the north-west forming an outer ward enclosed with a low broken wall about 4 feet 6 inches thick and 28 feet at most distant from the broch. (Figs. 31, 32.)

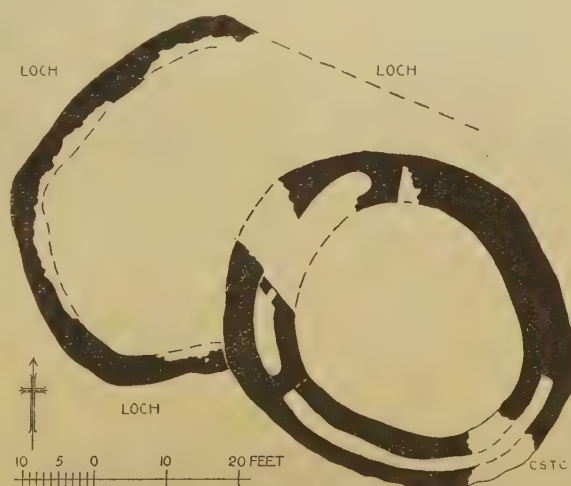


FIG. 38.—Dun Cromore (No. 38).

The broch is oval on plan with axes 52 feet and $44\frac{1}{2}$ feet; the walls, varying from 7 feet to 10 feet 9 inches in thickness, attain a height of from 10 to 12 feet. It has been connected to the mainland from the ward by a causeway still visible under water. The break in the wall at the north-west has presumably been the entrance, from the south jamb of which a long narrow cell 12 feet by 3 feet has opened, and a somewhat similar one is traceable on the north.

In the southern arc of the wall is a gallery, averaging 2 feet in width, now unceiled, with no

entrance discernible. Captain Thomas in his description¹ mentions that within the gallery at the time of his visit a stair of seventeen steps led up to a third gallery, and underneath them a smaller stair led down from a second but with no exit. Though the gallery walls still remain as shown on his plan there is now nothing to suggest that stairs ever existed here.

A straight jamb of a void penetrates the wall on the north of the court, but its purpose is uncertain.

The foundations of later buildings were noticed under a tangle of briar or dogroses which overgrows the interior.

¹ *Archaeol. Scot.*, v., p. 380.

Lewis xxxiii. 2 July 1921.

(DUNS.)

39. Dun, Loch an Duna, Leurbost.—About $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of the road from Stornoway to Crossbost and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-east of Leurbost is a small loch, Loch an Duna, near whose northern end and within 35 yards of the western shore is a small island surmounted by the remains of a dun. All that now survives is a ruined stone wall built round the water's edge. The rampart has tumbled down, but on the west side a part of the outer face remains in position for a length of some 12 feet and a height of about 4 feet. Viewed from the shore there seems to be an inner building on the southern half of the island.

Lewis xxxiii. 26 June 1914.

40. Dun Barkin, Loch Leurbost.—On a small island, one of the Barkin Isles, about 120 yards south of the island of Risay at the mouth of Loch Leurbost, and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south of Crossbost, are the ruins of a strong rampart of stone which has been built round the edge of the island on the top of the rocks, which rise some 15 to 20 feet above the water. The main axis of the island is north-east and south-west, and the island measures about 70 yards long by 20 yards broad. A tumbled mass of stone, 12 feet broad in places, showing the outer foundation course in position at various parts, extends along the greater portion of the south-eastern side of the island but, except for a short segment, on the opposite side it has

been entirely removed, the stones having been taken to Stornoway for building purposes. There are indeterminate traces of buildings towards the south-western end of the dun.

Arch. Scot., vol. v., p. 379.

Lewis xxxiii. 2 July 1914.

SITES.

41. Dunan, on shore about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Crossbost. There is no trace of building.

Lewis xxxiii.

42. Dunan, Eilean Iuyard.

Lewis xliii.

PARISH OF STORNOWAY.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

43. Eye Church.—At the neck of the Eye Peninsula, 4 miles east of Stornoway, the ruinous church of Eye stands within a graveyard beside the shore; while the building is roofless the walls are complete. The church has been a single chamber oblong on plan, measuring $61\frac{3}{4}$ feet by $16\frac{3}{4}$ feet within walls

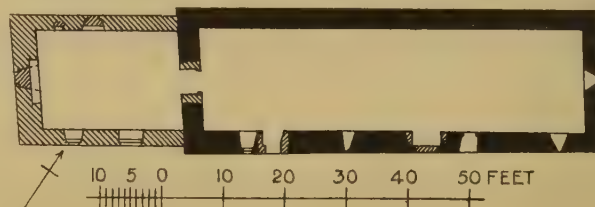


FIG. 39.—Eye Church (No. 43).

2 feet 8 inches to 3 feet 5 inches in thickness and 12 feet high, and was built probably in the 14th century. In the late 15th or early 16th century an addition measuring 23 feet by $16\frac{1}{4}$ feet was erected at the western end, the west gable then being partly reconstructed. The church is built of the local gneiss with a mingling of a coarse reddish sandstone also found close at hand; the latter material has been extensively used in repairs to the church walls. The original entrance to the church is near the middle of the south wall, and is 3 feet 7 inches wide with semicircular head, checks



FIG. 40—Carved Slab, Eye Church (No. 43).



FIG. 41—Teampull Eoin (No. 2): Interior, looking West:



FIG. 42—Carved Slab, Eye Church (No. 43):



FIG. 43—Eye Church (No. 43).



FIG. 44—Eye Church (No. 43): Interior.

and slightly splayed sconsons, but is now built up. Four feet to the east of this door inside is another 2 feet 2 inches wide with pointed arched head chamfered, which has led into a projection (vestry?) now demolished. Over these doors are a small window splayed internally and, close together, two putlog holes with two corresponding on the north wall probably for the rood screen. There are also two small slit windows similarly splayed with pointed rear arches, while another 5 feet above floor to sill is situated in the centre of the east gable. A modern door with wooden lintel has been slapped through at the west end of the south wall and beside it, higher up, is a window 1 foot 7½ inches wide. In the centre of the west gable a door 3 feet 6 inches wide with semicircular head, chamfered arrises, checks and square sconsons, leads to the addition, which has been entered by a similar door, now a window, on the south. It has a semicircular-headed window 2 feet wide with chamfered arrises, checks and sconsons splayed internally in each outside wall. Below the window in the west wall is a semicircular arched recess 1 foot 9 inches wide by 1 foot 5 inches deep, with a bold edge roll and quirk moulding on jambs. A small recess, 1 foot 6 inches wide, has been built up in the north wall.

The building generally is in a fair condition, but the northern side is threatened by an encroachment of the sea upon the sandy site. (Figs. 43, 44.)

CARVED SLABS.—Now affixed to the walls of the church are two memorial slabs, which formerly lay on the floor. That on the south wall bears a figure in high relief of a usual western type, wearing a quilted coat reaching to the knees, a camail or tippet of mail on the neck and shoulders, and a pointed helm or bascinet. Elsewhere the bascinet and camail went out of fashion within the first quarter of the fifteenth century, after usage for about a century; but it is unsafe to base precise inferences for the Islands on this chronology. In the Highlands the quilted coat persists till the seventeenth century at least. The left hand of the figure rests upon the hilt of a sword with a pear-shaped pommel and quillons depressed towards the blade, while the right hand grasps a spear below the head. The slab undoubtedly commemorates one of the Macleods of Lewis,

a line which failed early in the seventeenth century: any identification with a particular member can be only conjecture. (Fig. 42.)

It is perhaps possible to collate it for an approximate date with the slab on the opposite wall. This shows an assemblage of carved devices, including both foliage and animals, with an elaborately designed panel at the top (Fig. 40). The whole surface is now much worn, as is also the inscription which was cut around its edges. Only a few detached words are fairly legible, but when in slightly better condition the whole was read as:
HIC JACET MARGARETA FILIA RODERICI MEIC LEOYD DE LEODHUIS VIDUA LACHLANNI MEIC FINGEONE OBIIT M^oV^oIII. Margaret Mackinnon was mother of John the last Abbot of Iona.

CUP-MARKED ? STONE.—There used to lie on the floor of the church a stone of the shape of a graveslab, the under side of which bore about the centre of the surface a single shallow cup, 1¼ inch in diameter. The cup looked decidedly artificial in the close-grained stone, but the slab cannot now be distinguished among the debris and vegetation.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—In 1506, John Polson ("Poylson"), precentor of Caithness, received a presentation to the rectory of Ey in Lewis

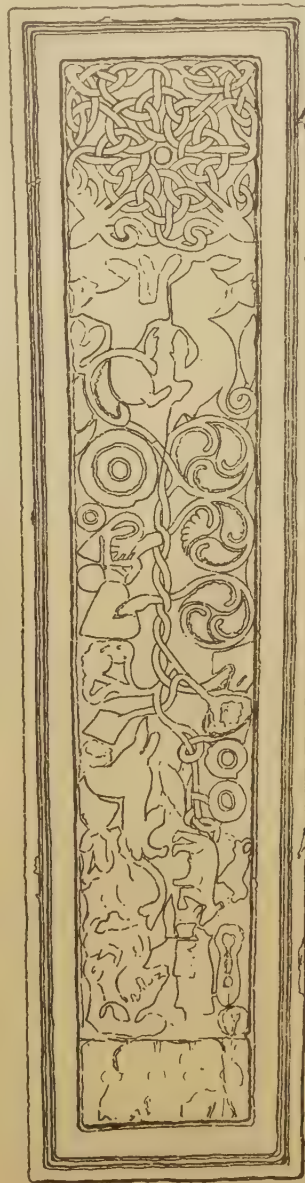


FIG. 45.—Carved Slab, Eye Church (No. 43).

in the event of its having to be vacated by John Macleod.¹ In 1534 and 1536, Sir Magnus Vaus was rector, and in 1552, Sir Donald Monro, probably the Dean of that name, who wrote the *Description of the Western Isles* (1549).² The church was dedicated to Columba.³

¹ *Reg. Sec. Sig.* i., No. 1332; ² *R.M.S.*, s.a.; ³ Martin.

Lewis xxviii. 27 June 1921.

44. **Teampull, Chicken Head.**—About $\frac{5}{8}$ mile east of Chicken Head, in a small enclosure on the left bank of a small rivulet near the edge of a cliff which rises more than 100 feet out of the sea, are the foundations of a stone and mud building measuring about 18 feet in length and 15 feet in breadth, orientated west-north-west and east-south-east. In the vicinity are the foundations of other structures, which have the appearance of ruined shielings.

Lewis xxviii. 23 June 1914.

45. **Church, Gress.**—The walls and gables of this simple church are still standing. It is 19 feet by 13 feet 11 inches internally and is orientated south of east. Above the door is the date 1681 with the initials

IB

MK

There are no particular features. (Fig. 17.)

Martin (c 1695) speaks of the church of "St Aula (i.e. Olaf) in Grease."

Lewis xv. 24 June 1914.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(DUNS.)

46. **Dun, Rudha Shilldinish, Holm.**—About $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles east-south-east of Stornoway, and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of Holm on the summit of Rudha Shilldinish, a peninsula connected with the land to the north-west by a very narrow neck of land and rising about 30 feet above sea-level, are the merest fragments of a dun. The site covers an area about 100 yards in length from east to west and 80 yards in breadth, and is well adapted for defence, the sides being

precipitous except towards the north-west. For a short distance along the southern flank, on the edge of the cliff, a mound of stones about 8 feet in width, and rising 1 foot above the interior with a single course of the outer facing in position is all that remains of the defences. The interior of the dun has been under cultivation in late times and the foundations of a homestead are still in evidence.

Lewis xxvii (unnoted). 13 June 1914.

47. **Dun Mor, Garrabost, Eye Peninsula.**—On an elevated promontory with precipitous sides, on the southern shore of Broad Bay some 600 yards north and a similar distance west of the Free Church Manse of Garrabost, are the very faint traces of Dun Mor. The flat grassy top of the promontory, which measures about 100 feet from east-south-east to west-north-west and some 60 feet across, rises some 18 feet above the hollow to the landward side, and it has been encircled by a wall of stone, now almost entirely obliterated, built round the edge. Towards the land, the best preserved part, it shows a width of 6 feet and a height of 1 foot.

Lewis xxi. 23 June 1914.

48. **Dun, Caisteal a' Mhorair, Traigh Geiraha, North Tolsta.**—On the south side of Traigh Geiraha a sandy bay hemmed in by steep stony hills, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of Tolsta, are five isolated stacks or pinnacles of rock springing out of the sand and surrounded by water at certain stages of the tide. The outer pinnacle, Caisteal a Mhorair, which is the largest and highest and which is pierced from east to west by a natural tunnel through which the tide rushes, stands some 100 yards from the top of the cliff on the southern shore of the bay and rises some 70 feet above the sands. The flat oval summit measuring some 60 feet from east-south-east to west-north-west and about 24 feet broad is defended by a wall 4 to 6 feet wide and now $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet high built round the precipitous edge. The greater part of the summit towards the north-west is occupied by a roughly rectangular chamber 32 feet long and 14 feet broad, entered 11 feet from the north-western end by a passage in the south-western flank 2 feet 9 inches broad and walled for a length of

14 feet. Access to this entrance is obtained by climbing a dangerously steep rib of rock opposite it, the cliff otherwise being unclimbable. Opening from the south-eastern end of the main chamber through a passage about 2 feet wide and 4 feet long is a smaller chamber lying transversely across the summit, $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet long and 7 feet broad. Between this latter division and the south-eastern extremity of the summit, which contracts to a width of about 15 feet, is a circular stone lined hollow 5 feet in diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep.

A quern-stone and fragments of rough hand-made pottery have been found here.

Lewis x. 3 July 1914.

49. Dun, Loch an Dun, Lower Bayble, Eye Peninsula.—Some 30 yards from the northern side of Loch an Dun, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south-west of Lower Bayble, is an islet covered with a mass of tumbled stones to a depth of from 4 to 5 feet, the remains of a dun. The outer face of the wall which has been built round the water's edge is traceable in parts as a single course of stones, but one short section is still in position to a height of 3 feet. The dun has had an exterior diameter of some 50 feet, and is connected with the shore by a causeway now 9 feet broad.

Lewis xxviii. 23 June 1914.

50. Dun, Loch an Dun, Aird, Eye Peninsula.—Near the southern shore of Loch an Dun at Aird on the Eye Peninsula is a small low island with the tumbled fragments of a stone wall round its circumference, the remains of a dun, which has been roughly circular with a diameter of some 80 feet. It is connected with the southern shore of the loch by a causeway 100 feet long and 6 feet broad.

Lewis xxi. 23 June 1914.

(CRANNOG.)

51. Crannog, Loch Airidh na Lic, Stornoway.—Towards the south shore of, and about 600 yards from, the western end of Loch Airidh na Lic, about 2 miles west of Stornoway, is a submerged structure of stone and wood, probably a crannog. Wooden logs were noticed in the

structure when the level of the loch was lowered in 1902 during operations connected with the Stornoway water-works.

Lewis xx (unnoted). 15 June 1914.

CAIRNS, CIRCLES AND STANDING STONES.

52. Chambered Cairn (remains of), Caisteal Mhic Creacail, Portnaguiran, Eye Peninsula.—About $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west of Portnaguiran New Lands, on a gentle slope about 50 yards from, and 25 feet above, the high-water mark on the northern side of the Eye Peninsula, is an irregular heap of stones known as Caisteal Mhic Creacail. The remains show none of the characteristics of a ruined dun, suggested by the name, but a setting of seven large slabs placed on edge, and two prostrate stones towards the south-eastern edge of the heap, though evidently much disturbed, have the appearance of the ruined passage and chamber of a chambered cairn. Four erect slabs from 1 foot 7 inches to 4 feet 6 inches in length and a fallen stone form the northern side of the entrance and curved chamber, while three stones placed on edge from 2 feet to 4 feet 1 inch in length mark the opposite side. The loose stones of the mound have been entirely removed from the eastern part of the structure, but stretching for 70 feet towards the west-north-west from the erect slabs is a tumbled mass of small boulders, and 40 feet to the north the ground has a covering of stone 30 feet long by 15 feet broad.

Lewis xxi. 23 June 1914.

53. Chambered Cairn (remains of), Dunan, Coll.—Some 250 yards south-east of a small burn, Allt ant-Sniomh, on the gentle northern slope of a peaty moor, at an elevation of about 60 feet above sea-level, about 1 mile south-west of Coll farm and $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-north-east of Stornoway, are the remains of the chambered cairn, Dunan. The cairn has been much disturbed and measures some 50 feet in diameter and 4 feet in height. Towards the eastern side of the mound is the northern arc of a circular chamber, 6 feet in diameter and now 3 feet deep, built of large boulders. Lying across the top of the chamber on the eastern side is a long narrow stone 8 feet 8 inches in length and 5

feet in girth, while almost parallel to it is a large slab, 6 feet long and about 3 feet wide, lying with one end on the tumbled stones in the interior of the chamber and the other end resting on the top of the wall. The entrance passage is not traceable, but possibly was towards the south-west, where there is a number of large blocks mingled with the smaller stones of the cairn.

Lewis xx. 3 July 1914.

54. Denuded Chambered Cairn and Circle, Cnoc Nan Dursainean, Garrabost.—The remains of this construction lie half a mile east-north-east of Garrabost school, and 225 feet above sea-level. The chamber has been contained



FIG. 46.—Chambered Cairn and Circle, Garrabost (No. 54).

within four central corner stones, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, and a thin slab capstone $4\frac{1}{4}$ feet long and $3\frac{1}{4}$ feet broad, now fallen in. On the south-west and 1 foot distant, is an upright $4\frac{1}{4}$ feet high, while about 10 feet from the centre of the chamber to the east-south-east are two prostrate stones, a few feet beyond which are two uprights 4 feet and 2 feet 7 inches high respectively. The circle of standing stones has been depleted, but four stones ranging from 1 foot 2 inches to 2 feet 9 inches in height and two prostrate are still *in situ* on the north-eastern arc, barely 30 feet from the chamber.

Two others, 3 feet in height, 36 feet and 44 feet distant respectively, are to the west, and one, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet high and 36 feet distant, stands to the south. Within the circle are two prostrate stones, one to the south-west and one, fractured, to the south-east. The cairn has probably been used as a quarry for the houses in Garrabost, and few loose stones are left. (Figs 47, 51.)

Lewis xxi. 27 June 1921.

55. Chambered Cairn, Carn a' Mharc, Gress.—About $1\frac{3}{8}$ miles north-west of Gress Lodge at an elevation of 275 feet above sea-level, on the southern hillside slope of Druim a Chairn, about 500 yards north-east of the Gress River, is a large cairn of stones, Carn a' Mharc, measuring 92 feet from north-east to south-west and some 77 feet from north-west to south-east and 10 feet in height. Occupying a small plateau which seems to have been excavated on the higher side and banked up slightly on the lower side, it commands a wide vista of peaty muirland, and of the mountains on the mainland beyond the Minch. The cairn has been much despoiled, and on the south-east side, extending over a length of 33 feet from the edge towards the centre, there is a large number of big slabs dislodged and tumbled about, which probably formed the burial chamber and the entrance passage leading into it. Round the south-western edge of the cairn is a number of large, pointed stones placed on end, apparently the remains of a marginal ring of such standing stones.

There are two small circular or oval settings of stone in the immediate vicinity of the cairn, doubtless the remains of shielings.

Lewis xv. 24 June 1914.

56. Stone Circle (remains), Priests Glen, Laxdale.—On the broad summit of the ridge, Cnoc Mor or Cnoc an t-Sagairt, between New Valley and the Laxdale River, some $\frac{7}{8}$ mile due west of Laxdale School and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Stornoway, at an elevation of 200 feet above sea-level, and commanding an extensive prospect over the Eye peninsula and the Minch to the east, are three prostrate pillar stones, the remains of a stone circle, which, judging from their present position, must have had a diameter of about 50 yards.



FIG. 47—The Chamber, Denuded Chambered Cairn, Garrabost (No. 54).



FIG. 48—Chambered Cairn (remains of), Breasclete (No. 79).



FIG. 49—Axe-shaped Pillar, Steinacleit (No. 17).



FIG. 50—Stone Setting, Steinacleit (No. 17).



FIG. 51—Denuded Chambered Cairn and Circle, Garrabost (No. 54).



FIG. 52—Stone Circle, "Tursachan," Gaaynahine (No. 93).

The one stone on the northern arc is 5 feet in length and 3 feet 2 inches broad, while the other two on the southern arc, which lie 30 feet 6 inches apart, measure 5 feet in length by 2 feet 8 inches in breadth and 5 feet 6 inches in length and 2 feet 5 inches in breadth respectively.

Lewis xx (unnoted). 24 June 1914.

57. Standing Stone "Clach Stein," Lower Bayble, Eye Peninsula.—Near the summit of a ridge on rough moorland some 500 yards north-west of Lower Bayble, in the Eye Peninsula, at an elevation of 180 feet above sea-level, is a large broken prostrate monolith. It has been 10 feet in length, 2 feet 8 inches in breadth, and about the same in thickness. There are several blocks of stone of inconsiderable size in the immediate vicinity of this stone.

Lewis xxviii. 23 June 1914.

SITES.

58. Earth-house, Gress Lodge.—Under the lawn in front, that is east of Gress Lodge, is an earth-house which was discovered many years ago, but is now covered up with blown sand. The entrance to the house was only a few feet above high-water mark on the beach, about 38 yards from the front of the house. From information received from Mr Peter Liddle, Farmer, Gress, it is learned that there was a circular chamber near the entrance and a guard chamber on either side of the passage a few feet before this chamber was reached. A narrow passage ran some 40 to 50 feet in a north-westerly direction towards Gress Lodge, when another circular chamber was reached. From this a passage branched off towards the north-east, forming an angle of less than 90 degrees with the entrance gallery, and at the end of this branch there was another circular chamber. Mr Liddle got a pick of stag horn near the latter spot, having dug down at least 15 feet from the surface. Querns and bones were also found in the earth-house.

In the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, Vol. X., p. 741, when apparently only the entrance chamber had been discovered, it is recorded that the earth-house is of circular form, 9 feet in diameter internally, with a stone pillar in the centre of the floor to support the roof. It was approached by a

passage 2 feet wide, with a recess of 2 feet 6 inches on both sides just before it enters the chamber.

Lewis xv (unnoted). 24 June 1914.

59. Chapel.—On a narrow shelf on the face of a high precipice under Duin Othail is the ground work of a chapel (?)

Lewis vi (unnoted).

60. Cladh Mhicheil.—Burying Ground of St Michael at Tolsta, said by Martin to contain the Church of St Michael.

Lewis x.

61. St Cowstan's Chapel and Well.

Lewis xxi.

62. Stornoway Castle.—On a rock now below the most westerly quay.

Lewis xxvii (unnoted).

PARISH OF UIG.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

63. Teampull, Tigh a Bheannaich (Tigh a Mhanaich), Aird, Uig.—Rather more than 1 mile south-west of Gallan Head and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west of Aird, Uig is a bare broad rocky promon-

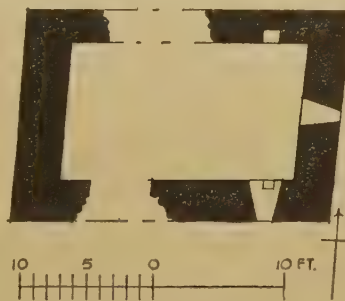


FIG. 53.—Teampull, Tigh a Bheannaich (No. 63).

tory rising 150 feet above sea-level. Facing the full Atlantic blast, no wilder or more exposed site could be chosen for human habitation, and it is almost denuded of soil by the spray of the winter storms. The Loch a' Bheannaich, which lies 200 yards inland, becomes quite salt during the winter. The promontory is known as Am Beannachadh, and has always been considered a holy place.

About 200 feet east of the edge of the cliffs and 100 feet west of Loch a' Bheannaich, near the southern end of the smallest of the three lochs on the promontory, are the ruins of a small church built of stone and clay, the walls standing to an average height of about 4 feet, with the fallen upper part of the wall filling up the interior to a considerable depth. The church, which is an oblong on plan, stands east and west, and measures interiorly 18 feet 1 inch in length by 10 feet 8 inches in breadth, the wall being from 2 feet 7 inches to 3 feet 6 inches thick. The door, entirely broken down, is placed near the western end of the southern wall, and there are widely splayed windows apparently about 8 inches wide on the outside in the east gable and near the east end of the south wall. Some 6 inches beneath the latter and 1 foot 7 inches from the east end of the church is a small recess 14 inches high, 9 inches broad and 9 inches deep, while low down on the opposite side, 2 feet 3 inches from the east gable, is another recess 1 foot 2 inches high, 1 foot 5 inches broad and 1 foot deep.

Some 32 feet south-west of the church is a spring, showing slight evidences of building round it.

Lewis xvi (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

64. Church, Pabay More, Loch Roag.—On a ridge between the almost dry lochan, near the south end of the island of Pabay More and a small sandy bay on the east side of the island, are the slight remains of a small church built of stone and lime, rectangular on plan and orientated almost east-north-east and west-north-west, and measuring about 20 feet 9 inches in length internally and about 13 feet in breadth, the wall being about 2 feet 10 inches thick. The building is much dilapidated, and only one window is traceable towards the west end of the south wall. The best preserved part of the wall shows a height of 2 feet 6 inches, but the doorway is quite obliterated.

Lewis xvii 17 June 1914

65. Church, Kirkibost, Bernera.—Near the shore on the east side of the island of Great Bernera, to the east of the township of Kirkibost, about 300 yards north of Portmore, are

the remains of an oblong church of late date orientated a little north of east and south of west, measuring 56 feet in length internally and 15 feet 10 inches in breadth. The walls, standing to an average height of 6 feet, measure 2 feet 3 inches in thickness. There are no windows in the north wall or gables, and the door and the windows, of which there were probably four, have been in the south wall.

Lewis xviii (unnoted). 17 June 1914.

66. Teampull, Mealista.—About 200 yards west of the Mealista farmhouse, on a rocky point on the south of the promontory Rudh'an Teampuill, rising only some 20 feet above high-water mark, are the foundations of an oblong church, measuring externally 25 feet in length and 15 feet 8 inches in breadth, with the wall 2 feet 8 inches thick and orientated south of east and north of west. Between the church and the sea is a small burying ground.

Lewis xxix. 18 June 1914.

67. Teampulls, Capail Mor and Capail Beg, Baile na Cille ("Kirk-town"), Uig.—A short distance to the south-south-east of the manse at Uig, at Baille na Cille, there is an old kirk-yard, beside the highest part of which stood the old church, built in 1724. The site was occupied by an earlier church, Capail Mor ("Big Chapel"), the foundations of which are said to be traceable in spring. To the south of it is the site of Capail Beg ("Little Chapel"), possibly a still earlier church.

Capail Mor was once a sanctuary, and there is a tradition that a Macleod fleeing from a Macaulay was killed just as he reached the threshold of the church.

Lewis xxiii (unnoted). 8 July 1914.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(BROCH.)

68. Dun Carloway.—From the crest of a steep and rocky hill slope 150 feet above sea-level, and to the immediate north of the straggling village of Dun Carloway, the broch of that name towers up as the predominating



FIG. 54—The Entrance.



FIG. 55—View from North-East.



FIG. 56—Detail of Interior.



FIG. 57—Detail of External Masonry.

DUN CARLOWAY (No. 68).

To face p. 18.

feature of the landscape. Broken and incomplete though it is, the broch is one of the best preserved in the Western Isles, and a part of the old walling on the east still attains a height of about 30 feet. It is constructed of two concentric drystone walls, roughly built to courses with stones averaging only $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet by 6 inches. The outer wall has a batter of

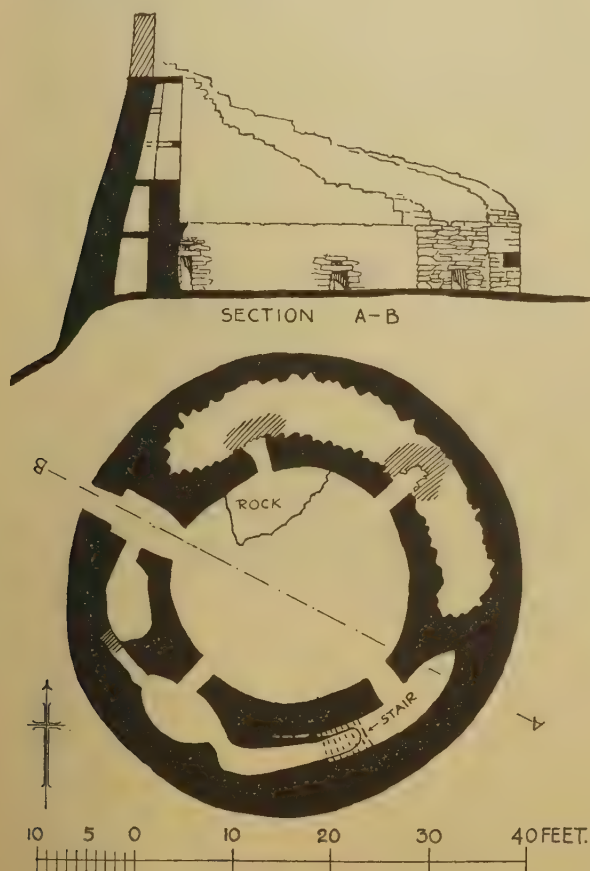


FIG. 58.—Dun Carloway (No. 68).

about $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet in a height of 10 feet, and it is bonded to the inner wall by the slab floorings of galleries, which are contained in the hollow between. (Figs. 54, 55, 57.)

The broch is circular on plan, with an average external diameter of 47 feet, and walls varying from 10 to 12 feet in thickness over all. Access to the court is gained on the north-west by a doorway 2 feet 11 inches wide by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high outside, broadened by checks to 5 feet, and contracting to $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet inside, the outer lintel—the largest stone in the structure—

remaining *in situ*. In the southern jamb a low door, 1 foot 11 inches wide, enters on the end of a roughly oval cell, measuring 8 feet by $4\frac{3}{4}$ feet, which has been connected from its inmost end to another cell by a low passage 5 feet in length; the opening to this passage is now blocked up, and traces of lime are discernible at the jambs. This other cell, also of oval shape, about $9\frac{1}{2}$ by $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet, with an entrance from the court $2\frac{1}{4}$ feet wide, has been prolonged some 15 feet eastwards in the southern walling as a tail terminating beneath the stair. In the northern arc there are two doorways from the court, very likely leading into cells, at present blocked up with debris.

Almost opposite the main entrance and in the south-east, an opening $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet high by 2 feet 8 inches wide enters a corridor or lobby, which extends some 6 feet on the left, and from which on the right rises a stair to the galleries. Over this door lintel is an aperture, a feature also observed at the second cell, and there are two apertures, one above the other, over the lintel of the blocked-up door on the north-east. (Fig. 56.)

From the first floor the structure is continued in an outer and inner wall, bonded together by slabs 3 to 6 inches thick, which are close-set on the floor of the first and second levels, but are discontinuous or show gaps on the third. This construction leaves a series of encircling galleries, which measure in height 5 feet, 4 feet and 6 feet respectively, starting from that on the first level above ground. The uppermost of these is obstructed in what remains by two bonding slabs about midway in its height. These galleries, in virtue of the batter of the outer wall, diminish in width as they rise, the first having an average measurement of $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet on the floor, while the uppermost averages 1 foot at the bottom to 8 inches at top.

Above this level there is now no inner wall and the outer wall has been repaired. A void in the inner wall, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, with vertical jambs, extends the whole height of the two uppermost storeys in the high portion of the inner wall, and has a single transom at the third gallery floor level.

Around the inner face of the broch, about 7 feet above the ground level, there is a 10-inch scarcement, which overhangs the bottom of

the wall by about 5 inches and is produced by the slightly concave construction of the lower masonry; above the scarcement the wall is intaken and is vertical.

Lewis xii. 4 June 1921.

(PROBABLE BROCHS.)

69. Broch, Traigh na Berie.—To the south-east of Valtos, along the south shore of Loch Roag, is a fine stretch of sands, known as Traigh na Berie. Extending southwards from here into a rocky piece of country is a grassy flat, rising only about 25 feet above sea-level, near the western side of which, and 400 yards from the shore, are the remains of a circular dun. Immediately to the west of the site a reedy lochan intervenes between it and the hills, while to the east is a stretch of level grassland about 200 yards across, probably once a marsh. All that remains of the dun is a stony mound, rising at most 4 feet above the surrounding level and showing the outer foundation course of building in position for a considerable part of the circumference. The only measurement obtainable is the external diameter, which is 55 feet. The wall has been at least 10 feet thick, and the entrance, which is quite destroyed, has been from the north-east.

Lewis xvii (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

70. Dun Stuigh, Great Bernera.—On the northern rocky shore of Great Bernera, looking out to the island of Little Bernera and across the mouth of East Loch Roag to Carloway, is a narrow rocky promontory, with its extremity almost cut off by a deep cleft in the rock, which makes it difficult of access. On the summit of this almost isolated rock, about 40 yards from its southern margin and some 30 feet from its northern extremity, at an elevation of about 30 feet above the high-water mark, are the remains of a circular dun of drystone masonry, probably a broch, Dun Stuidh, measuring 45 feet in diameter externally and 26 feet inside, the wall varying from 9 to 10 feet in thickness. The outer face of the wall is traceable all round except to the north-east, and the best preserved part, to the south-east, shows only 3 feet in height of building in position; the interior is filled

with tumbled stones. The doorway has possibly been in the north-eastern arc towards the loch, there being slight indications of built jambs 3 feet 3 inches apart at this place.

A gallery in the body of the wall can be traced at different places; at the south-east a short length of the outer part of the wall, 2 feet 10 inches thick, remains in position, and on the northern arc a part of the inner portion of the wall shows a thickness of 4 feet, but the stones are here slightly displaced, and the original thickness must have been rather less.

Lewis xvii (unnoted). 9 July 1914.

71. Dun Baravat, Loch Baravat, Great Bernera.—On a small islet, about 35 yards



FIG. 59.—Dun Baravat (No. 71).

south of a small peninsula on the eastern side of Loch Baravat, Great Bernera, about 1 mile north-west of the pier at Barraglom,

are the remains of the broch Dun Baravat, the wall of which rises from the water's edge. On plan the dun is sub-oval, with diameters of $56\frac{1}{2}$ feet from north-north-east to south-south-west and 43 feet transversely. The northern segment of the wall is fairly complete to a maximum height of $11\frac{1}{4}$ feet with a thickness varying from 6 to 8 feet, and contains, above the scarcement, an upper and lower gallery¹ with a cell at an intermediate level towards the north-west, beside which the entrance appears to have been situated. The greater part of the dun is reduced to a mass of debris, and the arrangement of the interior is further obscured by secondary building, probably a shieling, which has incorporated the part of the wall which still remains. The lower passage is $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, and varies in width from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet; the upper passage is reduced to the footing; the cell is $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet high and 20 inches wide. The dun is approached by a causeway on the north, 100 feet long. (Fig. 30.)

¹ Capt. Thomas shows a stair within the gallery. *Arch. Scot.*, Vol. V., Part III., Plate xlvi.

Lewis xvii. 19 June 1914.

(DUNS.)

72. Dun, Loch Baravat, Kneep.—Some 70 feet from the extremity of a promontory on the western side of Loch Baravat, Kneep, near Valtos, a small loch, about 100 feet above sea-level, surrounded by rugged stony hills, are the remains of a circular dun, occupying the greater part of a small island. The building rises from the water's edge on all sides, except on the east, where the edge of the loch is about 12 feet distant. The dun was much despoiled some three years ago to provide stones for an adjoining sheep fank and dipper. The outer face of the wall can be traced for about two-thirds of the circumference, but it is quite obliterated towards the north, while on the landward side, the west, where it is best preserved, a short section rises to a height of 3 feet above the surface of the water. Over all, the dun measures 37 feet in diameter. The interior is filled with fallen stones, the mound thus formed rising to a height of 6 feet. In no place can the inner face of the wall be traced,

and the doorway is now quite obliterated, but on the east side are several long slabs, like lintels. A causeway, with stepping stones on its summit, connects the dun with the land to the east, but it is impossible to say whether this has not been made in recent times to facilitate the removal of stones for building.

Lewis xvii (unnoted). 8 July 1914.

73. Dun Tiddaborra, Great Bernera.—On the southern shore of Great Bernera, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north-west of Rudha Glas, its southern extremity, is a slight elevation some 80 yards from and 30 feet above high-water mark crowned by the remains of Dun Tiddaborra, or Dun Nicisabhat as it is sometimes called. On the north or landward side the mound rises only about 6 feet above the adjacent level, but towards the water it is rocky and precipitous for a height of about 20 feet. Most of the stones have been removed, and the only piece of building in position is towards the south, where a section, nearly 12 feet in length, shows a height of 4 feet on the outside of the wall. The only all-over measurement now available is the diameter from north to south, which is some 50 feet.

Lewis xxv. 19 June 1914.

74. Dun Borranish (Dun Cuithach), Uig Bay.—On a tidal islet rising about 7 feet above high-water mark, some 20 yards from a southerly projecting promontory at the east side of Uig Bay, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south by east of Uig Manse, is the much dilapidated Dun Borranish, or Dun Cuithach as it is sometimes called from a mythological giant, who, after oppressing the country, was slain by the Fians. The remains of the building, which are now a tumbled mass of stones, measure 49 feet all over from north-north-east to south-south-west, and 43 feet from west-north-west to east-south-east. The entrance seems to have been on the north-north-west. Very little of the outer facing of the wall remains in position, but a section towards the north-north-east, which is straight, suggests that the building has been D-shaped. On the side facing the shore some not wholly ruined wall gives a thickness of 9 feet, but there is no trace anywhere of galleries. The dun is connected with

the land by a causeway, 70 feet in length and 7 feet broad, which is laid obliquely across the intervening sand.

Lewis xxiii. 18 June 1914.

75. Duns, Loch Baravat, Croulista.—Some $\frac{5}{8}$ mile north of Croulista, on an islet near the eastern side of Loch Baravat, a very small sheet of water, are the remains of a dun, connected with the shore by a causeway 30 yards long and 5 feet broad. The stones forming the building, which seems to have been circular with an external diameter of about 40 feet, have slipped down the sloping rock into the loch, except towards the landward side, where there remains a considerable mound of tumbled stones.

About 250 yards to the westwards, within some 50 yards of the southern side of the loch, is a small island, with a ring of tumbled stones round the margin, which viewed from the shore has all the appearance of a dun. Between the islet and the shore appear to be the ruins of a causeway.

Lewis xxiii (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

76. Dun, Loch an Duin, Dun Carloway School.—About 30 yards from the eastern side of Loch an Duin, a small shallow loch lying immediately to the south-east of Dun Carloway school, about 3 miles north-north-west of Breasclete, is a small island showing the remains of a stone rampart built round its margin. The exterior diameter from north-west to south-east is 46 feet, and from north-east to south-west 36 feet. On the western side the outer facing of the wall, which seems to have been at least 6 feet thick, still shows in places a height of about 4 feet in position.

Lewis xviii (unnoted). 15 June 1914.

77. Dun, Barraglom, Great Bernera.—At the township of Barraglom, on the southern shore of Bernera, about 300 yards east of the new pier, on a small promontory rising 8 feet above high-water mark, is the mere fragment of Dun Barraglom, which has probably been a circular structure with a diameter externally of some 52 feet. A few of the outer foundation stones are still traceable. There are slight indications of a ditch across the neck of the promontory.

Lewis xxiv. 19 June 1914.

CAIRNS, ETC.

78. Cairns, near Teampull, Tigh a' Bheannaich, Aird, Uig.—On very rough ground, occupying the summit of rocky knolls to the west and north-west of the small loch which lies some 90 yards north-west of the church, are several small cairns of stone up to 9 feet in diameter and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height, and some 37 feet to the east of this, the most westerly of the three lochs, is a cairn 14 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height.

Some 46 yards east of the church, in line with its northern wall, are two nearly circular settings of stone 4 feet apart and measuring 3 feet and $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter respectively.

Lewis xvi (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

79. Chambered Cairn (remains of), Breasclete.—On the summit of a small hill, Cnoc a Phrionnsa, to the west of the township of Breasclete, rising about 120 feet above sea-level, some 500 yards north-west of the lighthouse keepers' station at Breasclete, is an almost semicircular setting of four large slabs set on end, and nearly touching. They range from 2 feet 10 inches to 3 feet in height and from 1 foot 7 inches to 2 feet 2 inches in breadth, the convexity towards the north-east, with two small stones towards the east, suggesting the remains of the chamber of a large cairn. All traces of a cairn have been removed with the exception of three blocks of stone of inconsiderable size. (Fig. 48.)

Lewis xviii (unnoted). 15 June 1914.

80. Burial Mound, Sithean na h-Iolaire, Uig.—At Sithean na h-Iolaire, some 500 yards north-north-west of Uig Lodge and about 200 yards west of the east side of Uig Bay, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, is an irregularly shaped mound of unstratified sand containing a considerable number of small boulders. It measures some 60 feet from north-east to south-west and 40 feet across, and rises to a height of 5 feet. Human bones have been thrown out from time to time by rabbits burrowing.

Lewis xxiii (unnoted). 18 June 1914.

81. Cuithachs Grave, Geodha Ruadh, Aird, Uig.—About $\frac{1}{8}$ mile south by west of the

church Tigh a' Bheannaich, on a grassy plateau 120 feet above sea-level on the north side of a small geo, Geodha Ruadh, are two small-pointed stones standing in a line running north-east and south-west 10 feet 6 inches apart, the most southerly stone measuring 14 inches long, 12 inches thick and 17 inches high, and the other 17 inches long, 13 inches thick and 12 inches high. About 14 feet to the north-east, in line with the two erect stones, is a prostrate stone 3 feet 2 inches by 1 foot 9 inches by 6 inches, and 8 feet 3 inches north-west of the last is another, also prostrate, 4 feet by 1 foot 11 inches by 9 inches. To the north and west of the two last stones is a number of small boulders simulating the arc of a hut circle, which if complete would be about 22 feet in diameter.

Lewis xvi (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

HUT CIRCLES.

82. Hut Circle, Clibhe Sands, Valtos.—Some 30 feet above high-water mark on the steep sand-covered slope to the south-east of Clibhe Sands is an irregular setting of small boulders, apparently the remains of a hut circle. Built on a sharp slope, the stones have been dislodged and shifted from their original position by the removal of the sand by the wind.

Lewis xvii (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

83. Hut Circles near Teampull, Tigh a' Bheannaich, Aird, Uig.—A number of very small hut circles formed of small blocks of stone laid loosely on the surface of the ground, which in places shows a depth of only a few inches of soil, are noticeable near Teampull, Tigh a' Bheannaich, Aird, Uig. About 11 feet to the east of the church are the foundations of an oval structure, measuring internally $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet from east to west and 7 feet from north to south, with faint indications of a partition across the middle; about 39 feet north-west of the church on a rocky outcrop is a second, $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter; a third is seen about 47 yards west of the church, 6 feet in diameter, and another about 42 yards from the building in line with the north wall shows also the same internal diameter. In the last two examples the rocky outcrop is utilised to form one arc of the structure. Beside the third hut circle,

on the rocks at a slightly higher elevation, is a small circular setting of stone 2 feet 9 inches in diameter, with the enclosed area covered with small broken stones, said to be the site of a beacon. Another hut circle is placed 40 feet north of the last-mentioned one.

Lewis xvi (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

84. Hut Circles, Traigh na Berie.—On the western slope of the sandhill, with kitchen midden refuse scattered about, is an apsidal setting of five stones, apparently the part of a hut circle, which has had a diameter internally of at least 6 feet. A short distance to the south on the same sandhill, about 400 yards from the shore, is a hut circle, the stones slightly displaced owing to erosion by the wind, measuring 13 feet in diameter in the interior. The upper side of the circle is $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet higher than the lower side. Some 12 feet to the south were many fragments of rough pottery.

On the sand dunes to the north-west are the remains of other hut circles. On the summit of a dune, about 50 yards from the shore, peeping through the grass, is the western arc of a hut circle, which has a diameter of 20 feet; while another hut circle, 10 feet in diameter internally, has been laid bare on an adjoining dune about 30 feet higher than the high-water mark.

On the easterly slopes of the rising ground on the western extremity of the Traigh na Berie are great stretches of kitchen midden refuse. Bronze needles and pins are said to have often been found here. When visited, a small fragment of bronze wire $\frac{3}{32}$ inch thick and some late pins with wired-on heads were picked up.

Lewis xvii (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

85. Hut Circles (Eornal), Uig.—In a wind-swept gully in the sand at the south-eastern base of Eornal, a small hill rising 50 feet above it, and about 400 yards south of the high-water mark on the southern shore of Uig Bay, is a hut circle, formed by a single curb of stones set on edge and measuring 17 feet in diameter internally. About 9 feet to the north-east are a few tumbled stones, apparently the remains of a small structure. Two saddle querns, a hammer-stone and a few

fragments of pottery, together with some shells of cockles and limpets and animal bones, were got beside the hut circle.

The 78 chessmen of walrus ivory (Fig. 14), of which eleven are preserved in the Scottish National Museum of Antiquities, while the others are in the British Museum, were found in this gully in 1831. In the British Museum also are the fourteen ivory tablemen or draught-board pieces and a buckle from the same hoard (cf. for detailed descriptions *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. xxiii., pp. 9-14). The articles were exposed by a cow rubbing itself against a sandhill.

Some 50 yards to the north-east of the hut circle are the remains of another.

Lewis xxiii (unnoted). 8 July 1914.

CIRCLES AND STANDING STONES.

86. Standing Stones, "Tursachan," Barra-glom, Great Bernera.—Occupying a very unusual position on a steep, rocky slope ending in a cliff, which rises sheer some 40 feet out of the water at the narrow strait, Sruth Ear-shader, on the south shore of Great Bernera, and some 300 yards west of the new pier at Barraglom, are three standing stones and a prostrate pillar stone. While the erect slabs form the northern arc of a circle, they are placed with their broad faces looking towards the water. The most westerly stone, which stands 61 feet 6 inches from the most easterly stone, measures 7 feet 6 inches in height, 4 feet in width and about 19 inches in thickness, while the latter, which is the smallest of the group and is placed within 12 feet of the edge of the cliff, is 3 feet high, 4 feet broad and from 2 inches to 10 inches thick. The most southerly stone, which stands 33 feet 11 inches distant from the first stone and from the second, measures 9 feet 1 inch in height, 3 feet 6 inches in breadth and 13 inches in thickness, and the prostrate stone, which lies 9 feet 2 inches distant between it and the smallest slab, is 8 feet 3 inches long, 3 feet 9 inches broad and 1 foot 5 inches thick. (Fig. 34.)

Lewis xxiv. 19 June 1914.

87. Standing Stone, Clach An Tursa, Carloway.—In the township of Carloway, on the brae face sloping down to the inner end of

Loch Carloway 500 yards to the south, at an elevation of 150 feet above sea-level, is a fine standing stone, Clach an Tursa, facing the north-east and inclining slightly in that direction. It measures 7 feet 6 inches in height, 2 feet 11 inches across the south-western face and 3 feet 5 inches across the north-eastern face, while it is about 1 foot 10 inches thick. To the north-east, at a distance of 3 feet, is a long prostrate pillar stone, broken transversely in two and partly buried, 14 feet 8 inches long, at least 3 feet 3 inches wide, and over 1 foot 4 inches thick; while a somewhat similar stone, also broken in two, 17 feet long, 5 feet broad and 1 foot 8 inches thick, lies 11 feet west of the upright pillar.

Lewis xii. 15 June 1914.

88. Standing Stone, Blair, Township of Breas-clete.—Recent peat cutting has revealed a standing stone on the south side of the road some 300 yards north-west of Breasclete school; the stone is a flat slab of gneiss, 3 feet 5 inches in height and 5½ inches thick, set in a packing of small stones at base.

Lewis xviii (unnoted). 19 July 1923.

89. Megalithic Avenue and Circle with Associated Cairns, Callanish.—A cruciform setting of megaliths, unique in Scotland, stands at the southern end of Callanish township; it is erected on the ridge of a promontory extending into Loch Roag, and is visible from a considerable radius. The site rises towards the southern end in a rocky knoll, "Cnoc an Tursa," which attains a height of 100 feet above sea-level; the axis is north and south, and the ground falls gently on the flanks. The constituents of the construction are an avenue 27 feet wide, covering a distance of 270 feet and comprising nineteen monoliths, that terminates at the southern end in a circle 37 feet 4 inches in diameter, composed of thirteen stones, from which extend to east and west cross rows each of four stones, and to the south what appears to have been an avenue 12 feet wide, of which six stones are extant. Within the angle formed by the western limb and the south avenue is an outlier, perhaps the rudiment or remains of a second circle, and within the circle is a central pillar, the largest in the



FIG. 60—Chamber of Cairn.



FIG. 61—Central Pillar from South.



FIG. 62—Looking North from Central Pillar.

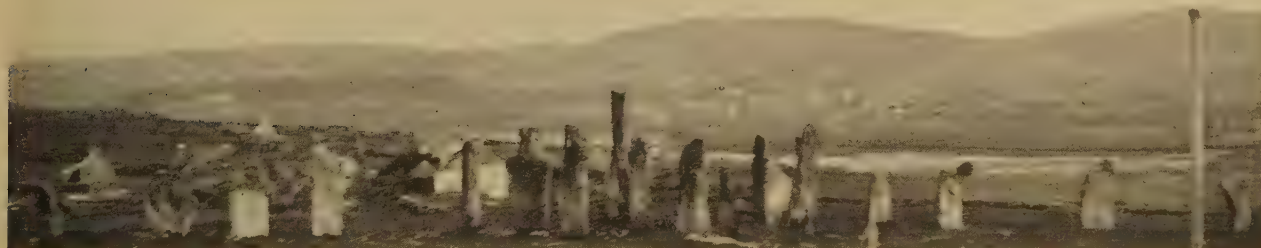


FIG. 63—View from South.



FIG. 64—Circle and Cross-arms from South.

MEGALITHIC AVENUE AND CIRCLE WITH ASSOCIATED CAIRNS, CALLANISH (No. 89).

To face p. 24.



FIG. 65—Stone Circle, "Tursachan," Cnoc Fillibhir Bheag (No. 91).



FIG. 66—Stone Circle, "Tursachan," near Callanish (No. 90): from South-West.



FIG. 67—Stone Circle, "Tursachan," near Callanish (No. 90): from North-West

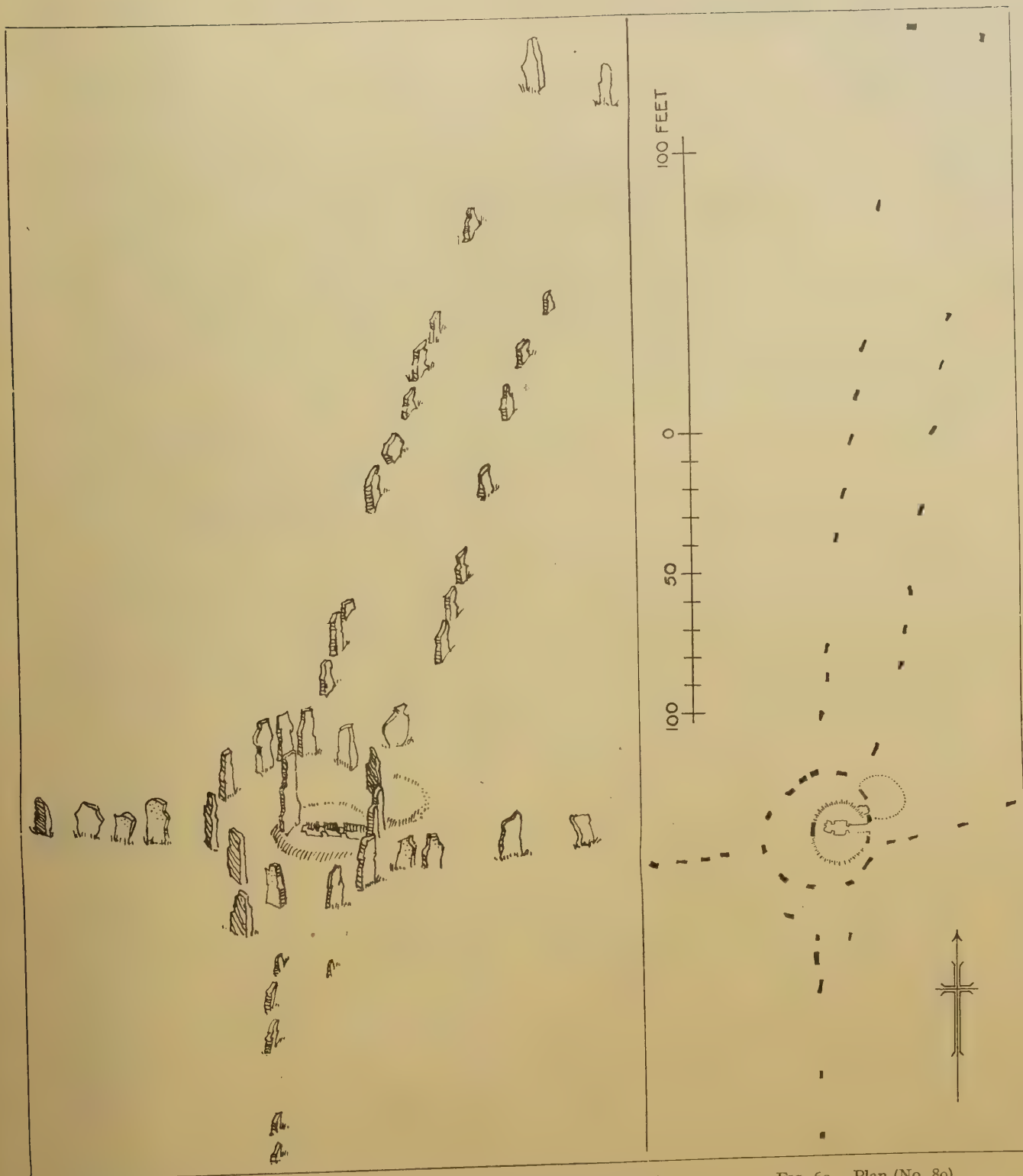


FIG. 68.—Megalithic Avenue and Circle, Callanish (No. 89) (*Bird's-eye view*).

FIG. 69.—Plan (No. 89).

scheme, lying in alignment with the western sides of the avenues. (Figs. 63, 64.)

Associated with the megaliths are two cairns; one cairn A on Fig. 70 is a chambered cairn, and lies within the circle, while the other, cairn B, impinges on it. The latter is not necessarily part of the megalithic scheme. That scheme as a whole, it is suggested by both plan and features, was in execution probably not a single conception carried out at one time but a development by additions. The south avenue runs almost due north and south to the central pillar; from there the northern avenue deviates 10 degrees eastwards; the western limb lies almost east and west, but the eastern deviates northward. The megaliths are of Lewisian gneiss, varying in thickness from $5\frac{1}{4}$ to 20 inches, and save for their being cleft are otherwise unwrought; they are each set some distance into the soil and are packed at the base with small stones. In general the stones are set roughly parallel to the axes of the construction, but the last stone on the west side of the north avenue is set contrariwise and is thus terminal. The heights vary from the 15 feet 7 inches of the central pillar to 3 feet 6 inches in the north avenue. (Fig. 61.)

The heights may be given as under:—

North avenue, west side, from north to south—10 feet 10 inches, 6 feet, 5 feet 5 inches, 6 feet 10 inches, 4 feet 2 inches, 4 feet 9 inches, 6 feet 2 inches, 3 feet 9 inches, 7 feet 4 inches, 7 feet 8 inches.

North avenue, east side—7 feet 8 inches, 3 feet 6 inches, 3 feet 9 inches, 6 feet 8 inches, 6 feet, 5 feet, 5 feet, 6 feet 8 inches, 6 feet 3 inches. (Fig. 62.)

South avenue, west side, from south to north—5 feet 1 inch, 5 feet 5 inches, 6 feet 10 inches, 6 feet 8 inches, 4 feet 4 inches; outlier 9 feet 7 inches.

South avenue, east side—4 feet 7 inches.

West arm from west to east—6 feet 3 inches, 6 feet 9 inches, 4 feet 10 inches, 8 feet 1 inch.

East arm from east to west—6 feet 4 inches, 9 feet 2 inches, 6 feet 8 inches, 6 feet 2 inches.

Circle from south side of entrance of Cairn A clockwise—10 feet 8 inches, 9 feet 6 inches, 9 feet 9 inches, 7 feet 10 inches, 9 feet 8 inches, 9 feet 3 inches, 9 feet, 11 feet 3 inches, 11 feet 5 inches, 10 feet, 9 feet 8 inches, 10 feet 2 inches, 9 feet 9 inches.

Central Pillar—15 feet 7 inches, weighs some 5 tons.

In 1857-8 Sir James Matheson, then proprietor of Lewis, had the peat removed from the construction and revealed the chambered cairn A, a view of which in its present state is given on Fig. 60. The peat had grown 5 feet above the packing at the shaft bases. The only relics recovered were fragments of human bone from the chamber, and a black unctuous substance, probably peat and animal matter combined, found, according to an eye-witness of the excavation, beneath the recumbent slab south of the pillar at the south side of the entrance.

Cairn A is roughly circular in shape and 21 feet in diameter; it has been bounded by a built kerb still extant in parts. On the peri-

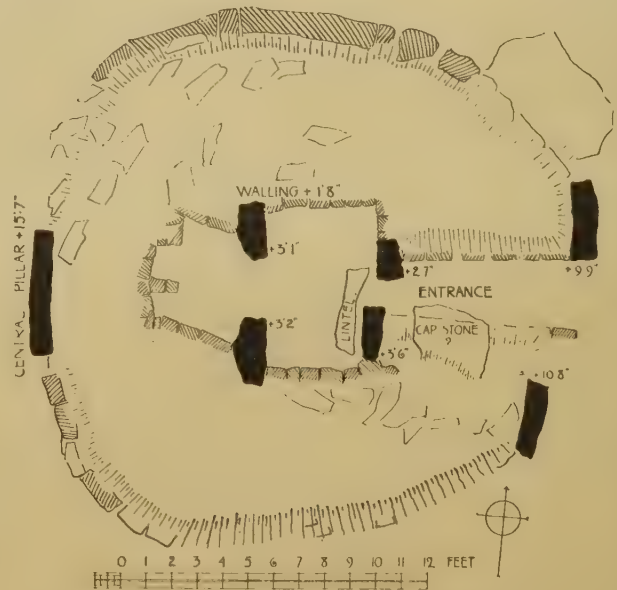


FIG. 70.—Cairn A, Megalithic Avenue and Circle, Callanish (No. 89).

meter of the kerb stand the pillar stone and two shafts of the circle, one of which forms a terminal to the entrance. The axis of entrance, chamber and central pillar is due east and west. The entrance is from the east through a passage 2 feet 8 inches wide at the mouth, contracted to 2 feet at the end, 6 feet 9 inches in. Two upright slabs, 2 feet 7 inches and 3 feet 6 inches high, form the entrance jambs of the outer chamber, and the recumbent slab lying beside them is probably the lintel. The outer chamber

is roughly an oblong, 6 feet 4 inches by 4 feet 3 inches, with the western side formed by two other upright slabs, 3 feet 1 inch and 3 feet 2 inches in height; these are the entrance jambs of the inner chamber, which is irregular in shape and deviates northward from the general axis; in the western wall are two recesses rather more than a foot in width and depth. The walling of the chambers still stands to a height of 20 inches, and is good drystone walling in stones 3 inches thick and up to 1 foot 6 inches in length. From the account of Sir James Matheson's excavations given in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, III., p. 110, it may be inferred that this cairn had long previously been opened and left unroofed.

Cairn B has been an oval of 18 feet by 14 feet; it is reduced to the ground and the outline can just be traced.

Lewis xxv. 19 July 1923.

90. Stone Circle, "Tursachan," near Callanish.—On a plateau within 100 yards of one of the arms on the east side of Loch Roag, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile west by south of the circle No. 92 and $\frac{5}{8}$ mile east-south-east of the Callanish megaliths (No. 89), is a circle of five erect, tall thin stones set with their faces in the line of the circumference and two prostrate slabs with an excavated cairn near the centre of the enclosed area. The five erect stones, of which four are pointed, occupy the northern, eastern and southern arcs of the circle, and measure from 6 feet 6 inches to 10 feet 9 inches in height and from 3 feet to 5 feet 10 inches in width; the two prostrate stones, which have fallen inwards, are 8 feet 2 inches and at least 9 feet 11 inches long and 5 feet 8 inches and 7 feet 6 inches broad respectively, occupy the western arc. A slab 4 feet 8 inches long and 1 foot 9 inches at its greatest breadth lies in front of the western erect stone, 1 foot 2 inches from its base, pointing towards the centre of the circle. The diameter of the circle is 65 feet, and the remains of the central cairn, which measures 28 feet in diameter and 1 foot in height, show in its centre an excavated cavity 6 feet in diameter. (Figs. 66, 67.)

Lewis xxv. 16 June 1914.

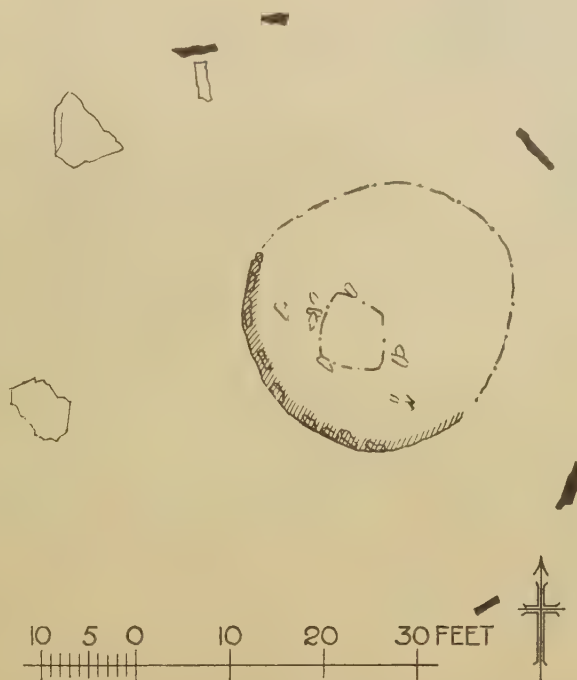


FIG. 71.—Stone Circle, "Tursachan," near Callanish (No. 90).

91. Stone Circle, "Tursachan," Cnoc Fillibhir Bheag, near Callanish.—About $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east by



FIG. 72.—Stone Circle, "Tursachan," Cnoc Fillibhir Bheag (No. 91).

south of the great circle of Callanish (No. 89), some 400 yards west of the fifteenth milestone on the road from Stornoway, on the summit of a slight ridge about 50 feet above sea-level, are two concentric circles of standing stones, the outer ring composed of eight erect and five prostrate stones, and the inner ring of four erect stones. The stones are set in a packing of small boulders. The diameter of the outer circle averages 53 feet, and of the inner 28 feet.

The stones still erect, beginning in each case with that to the north-west, have successively the following heights, the other dimensions being calculable from the plan:—

Outer Circle—(1) 5 feet 2 inches; (2) 4 feet 4 inches; (3) 4 feet 8 inches; (4) 4 feet 2 inches; (5) 5 feet 5 inches; (6) 3 feet 3 inches; (7) 4 feet 6 inches; (8) 5 feet 10 inches.

Inner Circle—(1) 7 feet; (2) 4 feet 7 inches; (3) 5 feet 5 inches; (4) 6 feet. (Fig. 65.)

Lewis xxv. 18 July 1923.

92. Stone Circle (destroyed), Druim nan Eum, Callanish.—On the summit of a rocky ridge about $\frac{3}{8}$ mile north-north-east of the township of Callanish and some 700 yards north-west of Loch Mhurchaidh, at an elevation of about 120 feet above sea-level, are at least eleven large pillar stones which have all been overthrown; several of them are over 10 feet in length and 4 feet in breadth. It is impossible to define the original situations of the stones, but their present position seems to indicate that there had been an outer ring of not less than seven pillars and an inner ring of four.

The west side of the ridge shows a roughly vertical face, so weathered that fine slabs of large size could easily be split off by wedges. This is considered by the local people to be the quarry which provided the stones for the Callanish and adjoining circles.

Lewis xxv (unnoted). 19 June 1914.

93. Stone Circle, "Tursachan," Garynahine.—About 1 mile south of Garynahine and some 250 yards west of the road to Uig on the gently rising northern slope of a small hill, about 100 yards from its summit, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, commanding a fine view in all directions, except to the south, is a stone

circle 33 feet in diameter, consisting of five tall, thin pillar stones, each facing the interior, with a circular ring of small boulders about 12 feet in diameter within the circle, and a small slab, 2 feet high, 2 feet 8 inches wide and 10 inches thick, set on edge in the centre of the ring. The stones are placed at irregular distances, varying from 7 feet 11 inches to 32 feet, the last space to the north-west suggesting

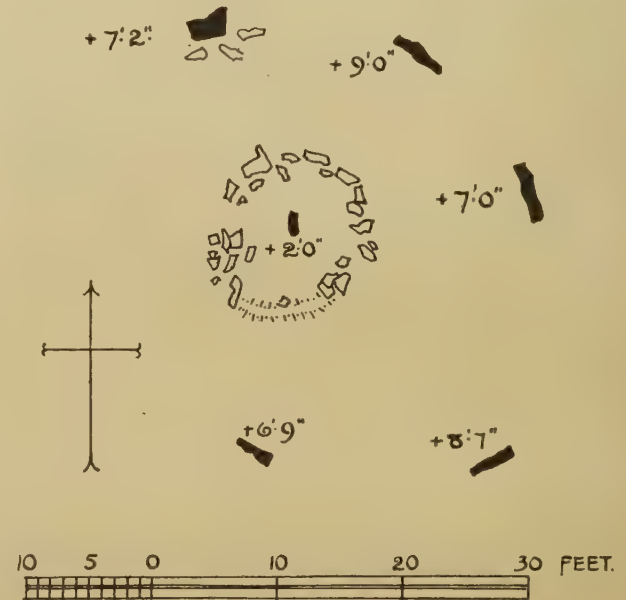


FIG. 73.—Stone Circle, "Tursachan," Garynahine (No. 93).

that a stone has been removed. The pillars vary from 6 feet 9 inches to 9 feet in height and from 2 feet 7 inches to 4 feet 10 inches in width, the two adjoining stones on the eastern arc being flat on the top and the others pointed. The area enclosed by the circle has been depleted of a 2 feet covering of peat, and apparently some further excavation has been made. (Fig. 52.)

Lewis xxv. 16 June 1914.

94. Stone Circle (remains of), "Tursachan," Airidh nam Bidearan, Garynahine.—About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-east of the last stone circle (No. 93), and about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles south of Garynahine, on the gentle north-eastern slope of a hill, Airidh nam Bidearan, about 120 yards from the summit and about 150 feet above sea-level, are five standing stones, varying from 2 feet 6 inches to 3 feet 6 inches in height, apparently

forming the western arc of a large circle. Without excavation it is impossible to say whether some stones just appearing above the peat further down the slope are pillar stones or earth-fast boulders.

Lewis xxv. 16 June 1914.

95. Stone Circle (remains of), Cul a' Chleit, Garynahine.—On the summit of Cul a' Chleit, a rocky knowe commanding a fine vista of rolling moorland in all directions, about 1 mile south-east of Garynahine, and 400 yards west of the south end of Loch Cul a Chleit, are two standing stones near the eastern side of the height, so placed as to suggest that they are the remains of a stone circle. The larger stone measures 5 feet 6 inches in height, 3 feet 2 inches in breadth, and from 13 inches to 2 feet in thickness, while the other, which stands 56 feet 10 inches to the south-west, is 3 feet high, 2 feet 10 inches broad, and 7 inches thick. Some 19½ feet west-north-west of the first-mentioned pillar is a flat slab 5 feet 6 inches long and 5 feet 1 inch broad, with another prostrate stone 5 feet 2 inches long and 3 feet 4 inches broad lying 10 inches to the south of it. There are some ruined shielings in the immediate neighbourhood which accounts for the destruction of the circle.

Lewis xxv (unnoted). 19 June 1914.

MISCELLANEOUS.

96. Earth-house, Valtos.—In a hollow about 80 yards west of the burying ground at Valtos, and about 500 yards north-north-east of Valtos school, at an elevation of about 200 feet above sea-level, is an earth-house which was exposed by wind erosion, but has again been covered by drifting sand. According to information received from A. J. Mackenzie, Esq., Uig Lodge, who saw it two days after its discovery, one of the roof slabs had been removed and it had been entered about 9 feet west of the entrance. It ran from west-north-west to east-south-east, and there was a dip in the roof in the former direction. Some 20 feet south of the entrance is a heap of fine fractured stones with a quantity of comminuted bones beside it. A few feet west from this was a circular setting of stones, possibly a hut circle.

Small fragments of coarse pottery were still in evidence when the site was visited.

Lewis xvii (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

97. Grave at Kneep, Valtos.—At Kneep are further kitchen middens, many being under the plough, and a human skull and rib bones were visible in the face of a sand-hill, having been exposed by the action of the wind. The deposit had been disturbed, so it was impossible to say whether the grave had been a short or long cist.

Lewis xvii (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

98. Kitchen Middens, Berie Sands, Traigh na Berie.—Commencing about 600 yards north-west of Berie and continuing at intervals for over ½ mile as far as Kneep, round the western end of Traigh na Berie, are numerous kitchen middens, many of which have been turned over during cultivation.

The first deposit, about 600 yards from Berie, is on the rising ground immediately above the shore on the west side of a rocky ridge. The most noticeable feature of this deposit is the large proportion of big oyster shells (4 inches in diameter). Beside these are shells of cockles, limpets, whelks, a few razor fish and large mussels and an occasional pecten. Small pieces of rough hand-made pottery are numerous, fragments of slag are seen, and there are a few animal bones, with an occasional hammer stone. Two small pieces of Samian ware (red) were found in this kitchen midden at the time of inspection.

Some five years ago excavations took place in this sand-hill to provide building material for an adjoining stone dyke. A number of hut circles were found and an underground beehive-shaped stone structure, this probably being an earth-house.

Lewis xvii (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

SITES.

99. Teampull, Valtos.—On hilly ground overlooking Traigh na Clibhe from the north-east, about 500 yards west of Valtos, is the site of a church in a burying ground. The foundations have entirely disappeared.

Lewis xvii 20 June 1914.

100. Tigh nan Cailleachan Dubha, Mealista.—All trace of this nunnery ("house of the black women") is obliterated, the site being occupied by a sheep fank, which doubtless has absorbed the stones.

Lewis xxix. 18 June 1914.

101. Dun, Camus na Clibhe, Valtos.—A slight mound overlooking Camus na Clibhe, near Valtos, some 250 yards north-west of and below the school, is said to be the site of a dun. All traces of this building have disappeared, but a spring in the neighbourhood is known as Tobar a Chaisteal.

Lewis xvii (unnoted). 20 June 1914.

102. Dunan, Loch Carloway.—This dun, whose site is occupied by the extremity of the new pier at the narrows near the head of Loch Carloway, was obliterated when the pier was built.

Lewis xii. 15 June 1914.

103. Dun Tidaborragh, Kirkibost, Great Bernera, Uig.—Eighty yards from shore on rocky knoll, being cleared away when visited.

Lewis xviii (unnoted).

104. Bearasay, a precipitous island off the west end of Great Bernera, has the foundations of a few houses close together. It was the stronghold of Neil Macleod for three years before his execution in April 1613.

Cf. Sir R. Gordon's Earidom of Sutherland, p. 275.

Lewis xi (unnoted).

FLANNAIN ISLES.

105. Chapel, Flannain Isles.—On Eilean Mor, the larger of the two islets that comprise the Flannain Isles, stand the remains of a tiny chapel. Single chambered and rectangular on plan, it measures only 5 by $7\frac{3}{4}$ feet within walls 26 to 30 inches in thickness. The doorway, 35 inches in height and 24 inches in greatest width, built with slightly inclined jambs, is centred in the west gable and is the only opening in the building. The roof, which

had fallen, has been roughly rebuilt. It was built of thin flat slabs in cantilever construction and rose externally to the height of the gables, 8 feet 10 inches. The masonry is dry-built and is rude in character, giving no clue to the date of the structure. (Figs. 16, 77.)

Flannain Isles. 21 October 1924.

106. Bothies of the Clan Macphail.—At the north-western end of Eilean Mor are the remains of two drystone structures, some 30 feet apart, of the type noted at the "Pigmies' Isle" in Lewis (No. 22). They are built of a poor quality of granite found nearby, which has been used undressed. The larger building has a total length of $27\frac{1}{4}$ feet and consists of a passage some 2 feet in width and height, which passes through an oval chamber 6 feet by $4\frac{3}{4}$ feet by $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet high at the western end, a central rectangular chamber, 8 by $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet, covered with a beehive roof 6 feet in height and containing an aumbry in the north wall, and expands at the eastern end as a lobby $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{4}$ by $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet high. (Fig. 76.)

In the smaller building a short curved passage 3 feet broad and 3 feet high swings round on the north and opens in a chamber with rounded ends that measures $10\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{1}{2}$ by $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, and is covered with a "beehive" roof. On the southern side there is a passage 18 inches by 3 feet 2 inches by 2 feet 8 inches high, and where this opens off the main chamber a flagstone 4 inches thick and 18 inches square projects within the main chamber.

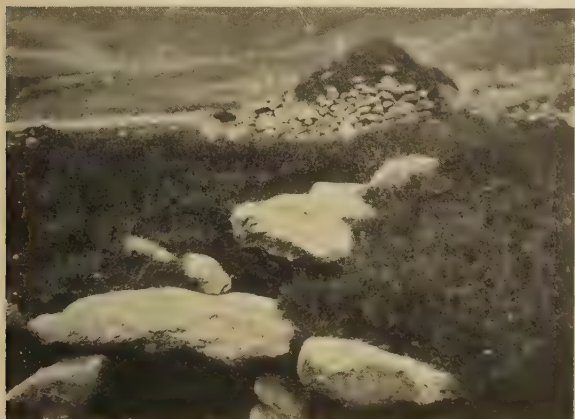
Flannain Isles. 21 October 1924.

PARISH OF HARRIS.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

107. Church, Teampull Mhoire, Island of Pabbay.—The island of Pabbay, the second largest of the numerous islands in the Sound of Harris, is one of the most remote and, as it lies towards the western end of the Sound exposed to the full Atlantic swell, is often quite inaccessible.

Near the southern shore of the island at Bailenacille, in an old kirkyard, are the ruins of Teampull Mhoire, of which the eastern end has been entirely removed. The church,



Capt. P. Grant.
FIG. 74—Earth-house, St. Kilda (No. 158).



Capt. P. Grant.
FIG. 75—Earth-house, St. Kilda (No. 158), Interior of Passage.



FIG. 76—Bothan of the Clan Macphail (No. 106).

C. E. Cadger.



FIG. 77—The Flannain Isles, showing position of Chapel and Bothan (Nos. 105-6).

C. Dick Peddie.

To face p. 30.

which lies west-north-west and east-south-east, measures 15 feet in width internally and 20 feet over all, and the walls, which stand 5 feet above the heaped-up ground outside, remain for a length of about 39 feet 6 inches. In the west end is a lintelled door 4 feet 8 inches in height and 2 feet 2 inches in width on the outside, with door checks 4 inches deep on either side 16 inches from the exterior. It is splayed internally, measuring 3 feet 4 inches in width on the inside. Some 3 feet above the door is a splayed window 2 feet 7 inches in height and 6 inches wide on the outside, and 3 feet 3 inches in height and 1 foot 11 inches wide on the inside. Towards the eastern end of the church in each of the north and south walls, 3 feet above the ground, is a splayed window 6 inches wide on the outside. Both windows are much broken, but that in the southern wall shows a width of 2 feet 9 inches on the inside. (Fig. 93.)

At the height of the wall head there is a scarcement of 3 inches in the remaining western gable. In both the north and south walls at the west end about the height of the top of the door are three recesses about 1 foot square nearly opposite each other and about 29 inches to 33 inches apart. An opening 6 inches square pierces the gable 26 inches above the scarcement and 17 inches north of the window.

CHURCH, TEAMPULL BEAG.—The ruins of an older and smaller church lie 12 feet 10 inches to the west of Teampull Mhoire. Only a small part of the eastern gable and northern wall remains, showing a thickness of 2 feet 10 inches and a height of about 2½ feet. It is orientated about 15 degrees more to the north of west and south of east than the later church. Neither the length nor the breadth of the building is ascertainable.

Harris xxi. 10 June 1914.

108. Chapel, Rudh' an Teampuill, Toe Head.—The ruin of this building stands on a little promontory ¾ mile south-west of Northtown and rather more than 2 miles south-south-east of Toe Head. It is a single chambered oblong structure, measuring 21 feet by 10 feet, with walls about 2¾ feet thick. The masonry is random rubble brought to courses built of granite and schist. Both gables are intaken. The walls stand to a height of over 6½ feet.

The entrance is from the north. There is a single narrow window in each side wall and one in either gable, the western being at a high level, where there seems to have been a gallery, the corbels of which remain. Both ends of the

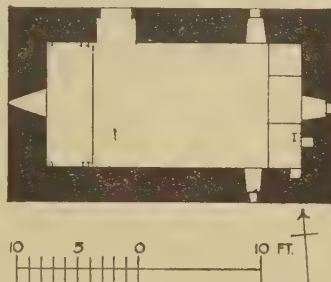


FIG. 78.—Chapel, Rudh' an Teampuill (No. 108).

building are raised one step. On the east step is part of the altar seating, and beside it a corbel or image bracket. Beside the altar are two small aumbries. (Fig. 94.)

Harris xvii. 27 July 1923.

109. St Taran's Chapel, Taransay.— and

110. St Keith's Chapel, Taransay.—At Paible, a township on the south-eastern shore of the island of Taransay, are the sites of two early chapels. The stones having been removed, all that remains are two slight mounds within a few yards of the shore to the south-west of the township. Both chapels seem to have been orientated east and west, the mound of the western chapel, St Keith's, measuring 21 feet in length by 12 feet in breadth, while that of the other, St Taran's, which lies 38 yards to the east, is 32 feet long by 18 feet broad.

Martin says Taransay had "two chapels, one dedicated to St Tarran, the other to St Keith." He continues, "There is an ancient tradition among the natives here that a man must not be buried in St Tarran's, nor a woman in St Keith's, because otherwise the corpse would be found above ground the day after it is interred."

CROSS STONE.—A stone (syenite) 16 inches long by 9½ inches wide, which had been used in the building of a house within a few yards of St Taran's Chapel, bears a rudely inscribed Latin cross, the shaft being 10 inches in length and the arms 6 inches. The arms and head of the cross terminate in circular depressions an

inch in diameter, and a similar cup-like depression is in each of the angles formed by the intersection of the arms of the cross.¹ The stone is now in the National Museum of Antiquities.

¹ Cf. *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, IV., p. 115.

Harris xii. ("St Carran's Chapel") 17 July 1914.

111. St Clement's Church, Rodil. — This church (Figs. 82, 83), the one considerable archi-

lying beneath a continuous roof, while the aisle roofs are lower. On account of irregularities in the site the tower, similar in width to choir and nave, is founded about 11 feet above the church floor, and it terminates in a pyramidal slated roof rising within an embattled parapet some 56 feet above that level.

In general the masonry is random rubble, but in parts it is roughly brought to courses; the local gneiss and trap are used in the walling, schist and freestone in the dressings. The freestone has been imported; it is very similar

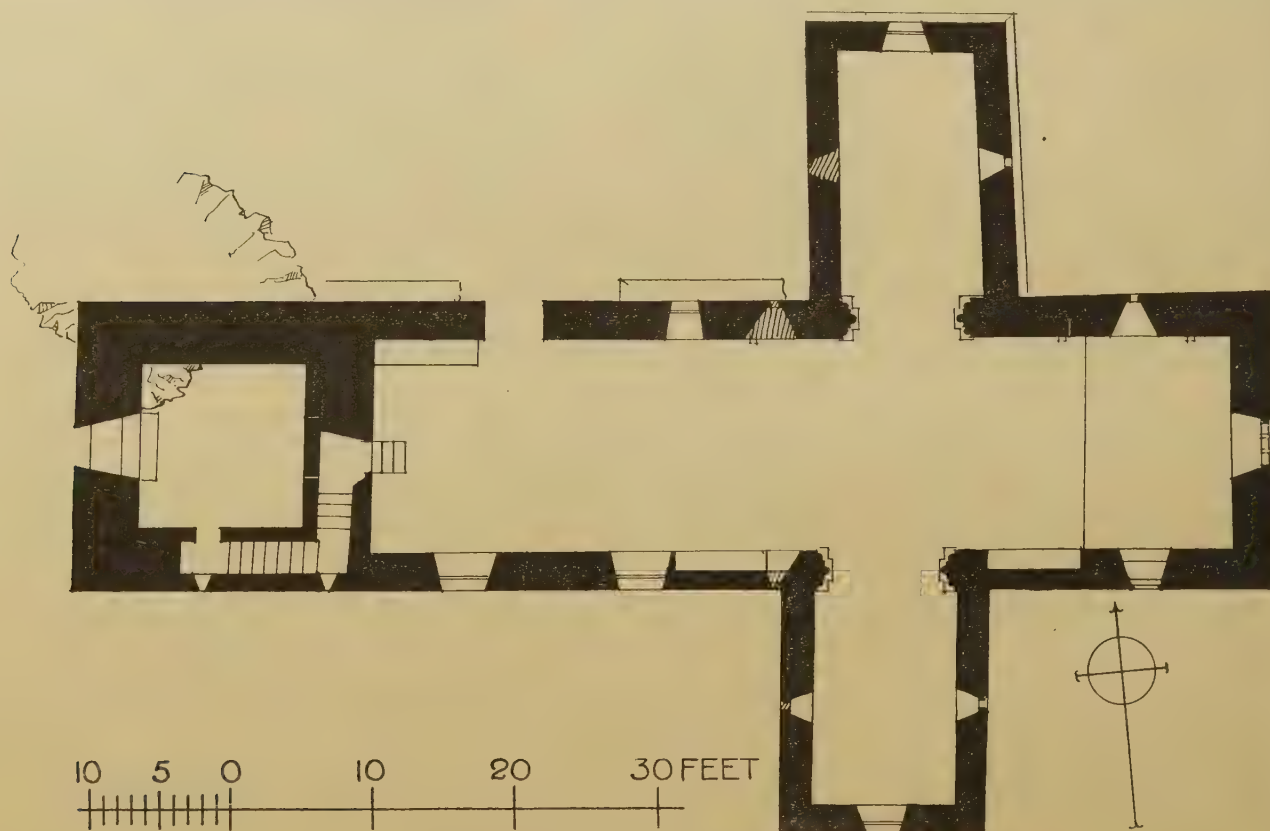


FIG. 79.—St Clement's Church, Rodil (No. 111).

tectural monument in the Outer Hebrides, stands on rising ground above the north-eastern shore of Loch Rodil; the landward approach is from the north-west down a sheltered valley, at the southern end of which the church tower rises as a prominent landmark. The site is rocky and irregular in level, and the building is accommodated to it. Cruciform on plan, the church comprises nave, western tower, choir, and two cross aisles, nave and choir

to that used at Iona Cathedral, which came from Carsaig in Mull, and it may have been from that quarry, for the work at Rodil has obviously been influenced by Iona. The material available has determined the treatment of the voids, which fall into three groups; the first group comprises a series of lintelled openings which are formed in the wall without rebates for cases or frames or grooves for glazing; the second includes the narrow cusp-

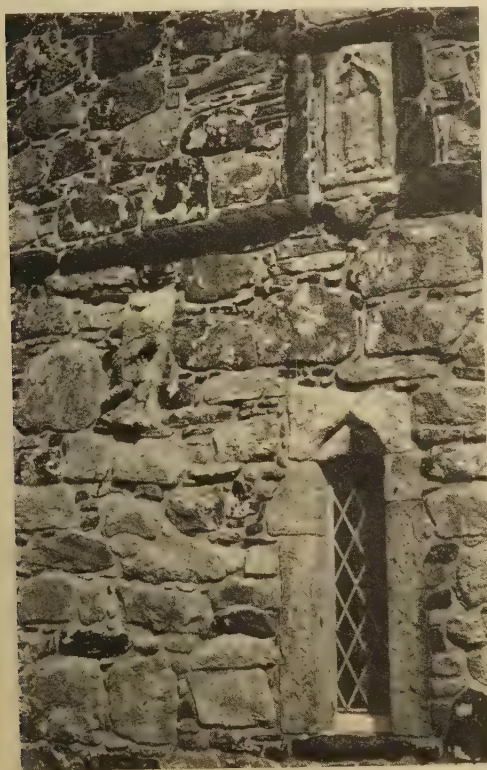
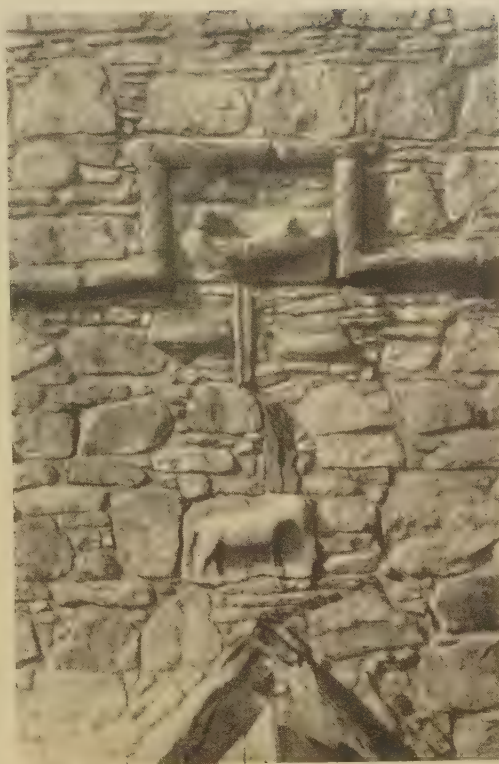


FIG. 80—Sculpture on West Face of Tower.



Photo, H.M. Office of Works.

FIG. 81—Sculptures on East Face of Tower.



FIG. 82—View from South-East.

ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH, RODIL (No. 111).

To face p. 32.



FIG. 83—Interior, looking South-West.

ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH, RODIL (No. III).



FIG. 84—Detail of Sculptured Tomb: St. Bartholomew and St. Thomas above.

headed windows built with freestone dressings, chamfered and rebated on jambs and head, grooved for glazing and constructed with ashlared rere-arches; while the third group contains the large quasi-Gothic east window and the south-east window of the choir, in the construction of which schist is largely employed. The windows of the second group, which includes the tower windows, are well-formed late Gothic "lancets" of Iona pattern and detail. The east window has a pointed arched head, infilled with a wheel of six spokes, while the lower part has three lights with trefoiled heads. The label bears a dog-tooth enrichment, and there is a tiny nail-head ornament on the tracery. The label stop and finial are human heads wrought in freestone. The south-east window of the choir had a pointed arched head, but this is blinded and a lintel has been inserted at the springing. The label bears a ball ornament. While there are differences in treatment and material, the work is of one time, *i.e.* the early 16th century; but it is quite possible that the site was occupied by an earlier building, of which no traces are visible save perhaps a rough ground course which returns along part of the south wall of the nave. Yet it must be said that none of the earlier churches in the Islands exhibits this feature, and that a similar though slighter offset is noted in the north and east walls of the north aisle at Rodil.

The tower is divided horizontally by a cabled stringcourse of schist breaking upwards at the



FIG. 85.—Beggar's Badge, of lead (No. 111).

angles and also at the centre of each wall face, forming a panel space. Above the stringcourse the angles are wrought with a quirked edge roll and fillet for a height of some 10 feet, where there are projecting heads, apparently of bulls.

Above the heads the quirked edge roll continues without a fillet to the corbel table. The parapet has a slight overhang and is borne on discontinuous corbels of two members. The angle corbels, which are of schist, are wrought to resemble conoidal corbels of three members, each being only 3 inches in height. The parapet has two embrasures on each face. The tower bears the following sculptured panels:—

West wall above the entrance to the tower.—A canopied niche contains an effigy of St Clement (?); the base of the niche resembles a misericorde and bears a bull's (?) head. Beneath this panel are two others canted. The northern represents a male figure clad in kilt and plaid, the southern a male wearing a tight-fitting jerkin, open at the throat, and trunks and hose. (Fig. 80.)

East wall.—In the centre is a much worn panel, apparently representing two fishermen in a boat, from the stern of which hangs a net; a second panel below represents a horse. (Fig. 81.)

North wall.—A central panel bearing a bull's head.

South wall.—A central panel representing a nude female nursing a child and in a crouching attitude; the right hand upper corner contains a rectangular object with a spout. A similar panel occurs on the south wall of the refectory at Iona Nunnery. These figures appear to belong to the class termed in Ireland, "Shiela na gigs," which are sometimes attached to ecclesiastical edifices. Thirty-two examples have been listed in Ireland, three in England and a series on one church in France.¹

Another panel representing the crucifixion is built above the entrance to the nave.

The present roof is modern, and the weather table indicates that the walls of nave and choir have been slightly raised.

The entrance to the church is in the north wall of the nave. Nave and choir have a total length of 60 feet and a width of 15 feet. The eastern 10½ feet of the choir is elevated. There is no piscina nor are there sedilia. There is no structural distinction between nave and choir or between choir and sanctuary, and, if such existed, it was a timber construction; in this connection may be noted the schist corbels

¹ Cf. *Proc. R.S. Ant., Ireland*, Vol. XXIV. (1894), p. 77.

in the north wall immediately west of the cross aisles and on either side of the altar step. The cross aisles are irregularly placed. The northern arch is constructed in schist and is almost semicircular, while the southern arch is built of freestone and is obtusely pointed, but the detail is the same in both cases. On the jambs are three bold rolls with fillets separated by rectangular planes; the bases resemble inverted cushion capitals, the capitals have round-edged abaci with fillets, ogival bells and curvilinear neckings; in each case the centre bell has been foliaceously enriched; capitals and bases are rectangular on plan, an archaism dating back to Transitional work. The arches have three members, and are enriched with the dogtooth ornament. The north aisle measures $17\frac{1}{2}$ feet by $9\frac{1}{2}$ feet, the southern 15 feet by 10 feet.

To have founded the tower at the level of the church would have entailed a considerable amount of rock cutting, which was avoided by accommodating the tower founds to the top of the rock, but even so the rock obtrudes within the lowest chamber. The tower has an external entrance on the west, and it communicates with the church by a doorway centred in the west wall of the nave; the doorway has an obtusely pointed head, and it opens at the foot of a mural stair ascending to the lowest storey of the tower, a single chamber $11\frac{1}{2}$ feet square. A window in the east wall, now built up, overlooked the nave, and from the north jamb a mural stair led upwards to the next floor; from this level the ascent was continued by ladders. These tower rooms are fair chambers, well lit and not uncomfortable, although unprovided with fireplaces.

SCULPTURED TOMBS AND EFFIGIES.

There are three tombs within the church, of which the most notable—one of the finest in Scotland—is built within the south wall of the choir. Ten feet long and recessed 1 foot $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches within the wall, it has a semicircular arch of sculptured freestone panels relieved by plain schist bands. The moulded label is of schist and is roughly triangular; it terminates in moulded stops. Label and soffit are enriched

with nail heads. The back of the recess is of freestone and contains sculptured panels. (Fig. 89.)

The panels on the arch are nine in number, there being four on each side of that forming the key-stone, on which is carved the Saviour on a cross upheld by a seated figure of the Father in pontifical robes and tiara. Some details are rather worn but are described by Mr J. S. Richardson thus: above the dexter shoulder of this crowned figure is a bird for St John, over the sinister shoulder an angel for St Matthew; under the right foot of the Father is a winged ox for St Luke, and under the left foot the winged lion of St Mark, of whose name some letters appear on the scroll. The figure on the cross has the arms straight and the head inclined to the dexter. The body is emaciated and clothed only in a loin cloth; the legs are crossed below the knees.

Of the panels on the dexter side the first at the foot shows two figures; that to dexter, with an axe (?) as symbol, may represent St Mathias. The second shows one figure bearing a St Andrew's cross, which may thus stand for that apostle; while on the scroll as it crosses the companion may be discerned what are probably the opening letters of the name Mat[thew]. The third panel is occupied by an angel swinging a censer. In the fourth the more complete figure is the only one in the whole assemblage which is without a beard; in the right hand is a sword or rod; the figure may stand for the youthful St John. To his companion there is no certain clue; he may be St Peter.

On the sinister side the first panel from the top shows a figure holding a cross staff, and with a shell on his halo, while on the scroll are the letters s JACOBI for James the Greater. The other personage offers no marks of identification. The second panel in this order, corresponding to that on the dexter side, has an angel with censer. In the next division below, the figures face each other, the only case in which they do so, that to the left also pointing upwards or in the direction of the crucifixion panel. On the scroll held by the left hand may be read SCI BARTHOL, for St Bartholomew; while on the part held by the companion figure are the letters s THOM(A) for St Thomas. This dramatic confrontation of the figures suggests an illustration of the one apostle convincing his doubting brother. Of the pair of figures

in the last panel, the scroll again names one as JACOBI, presumably James the Less; while his companion bears what may be a chalice, which is suggestive of St John, only that the figure shows a beard. The title below is illegible, but St John would not occur twice. (Fig. 84.)

All the figures, with the one exception noted, have long hair, beard and unshaven upper lip. Each is dressed in the quilted coat of the west, with a mantle and tippet over, and bears a halo. As they number just twelve, and some at least can be identified with apostles, the likelihood is that as a whole they represent these.

The space at the back of the recess is occupied by three horizontal rows of panels above a plain base. On the top line are three panels.

shows a galley under sail; this feature, like the castle on the corresponding panel at the other end, being part of the Macleod arms.

The bottom row shows first a hunting scene, as illustrated; next a representation of Michael and Satan at the weighing of souls (Fig. 88); and thirdly a finely-cut Latin inscription as follows:—

HIC LOCULUS CO(M)POSUIT

P(ER) D(OMI)N(U)M ALLEXA(N)DER FILIUS VIL-
(EL)MI

MAC CLOD D(OMI)NO DE DU(N)VEGAN

ANNO D(OMI)NI M^o CCCC^o XXVIII^o

The letters omitted or indicated by a sign are shown in brackets. It is obvious that there



FIG. 86.—Hunting Scene on Tomb: St Clement's Church, Rodil (No. 111).

In the centre an angel blows a curved trumpet on either side of a blazing sun or star of twelve rays, alternately straight and curved. In each of the panels flanking this device is an angel holding an upright burning candle.

The middle row begins at the dexter end with a castle, having a great tower and a smaller one showing an entrance. The stepped character of the battlements is rather Irish than Scottish. The next panel shows a bishop with mitre and crook in the attitude of blessing. The central of the five panels displays the Blessed Virgin with Child; she sits crowned on a throne within a decorated canopy, and holds a lily (?) in her right hand. Next to her is the figure named on its base as [—] CE CLEMENT, *i.e.* St Clement, dressed in episcopal vestments, with mitre and crook, and holding in his right hand a skull. The final panel on this level

has been no effort to secure grammatical agreement in the words, but the sense can be made out to the effect that the tomb was prepared by Alexander Macleod of Dunvegan, son of William Macleod, that is by Alastair Crotach, who was dead before 1547. The same Alastair was responsible for some of the building at Dunvegan Castle (see No. 504).

The figure on the tomb is attired in armour of plate with ornamented bascinet and camail, while a scalloped edge of mail appears below the body plates. The shoes are round-toed sabbatons and rest upon a crocodile or other lizard. The sword is held by hilt and quillon perpendicularly between the legs, and has straight quillons with trefoiled ends and a pear-shaped pommel. There is a richly-ornamented hip belt. The armour is thus a mixture of old and new fashions. At head and

foot of the projecting part of the tomb is a lion, that by the head being much wasted.

A second tomb lies immediately west of the transept; the recess, $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet long and 1 foot deep, is contained within a semicircular arch with triangular label, surmounted by a trefoil; the arch mouldings terminate in miniature bases similar in type to those of the transept arches. The tympanum between label and arch encloses a panel depicting the crucifixion with Mary and John; the Christ here with straight arms and with the feet crossed, wearing a loin-cloth. The recess, which has an illegible inscription in Gothic lettering wrought on the back, contains an effigy clad in plate armour with pointed helm, wearing a hauberk under robe and hood. The feet, clad in sabbatons, rest on two intertwined hounds, and there is a hound on either side of the head. On the chest and lying between the legs is a sword with depressed quillons and onion-shaped pommel, grasped in the left hand by the hilt and in the right by the pommel. At the left side is a dagger.

A third effigy, at one time in the south aisle, has been placed in the nave at the western end of the north wall. It lies on a pedestal measuring $7\frac{1}{3}$ feet by 2 feet. At head and feet are lions couchant. The figure wears plate armour with a conical helmet; the elbow, shoulder and knee-pieces are apparent; the greaves are ribbed. The sword resembles that in the last effigy and is similarly held. Above the effigy is a marble tablet recording the restoration of the building by Alexander Macleod of Harris in 1787.

CARVED SLABS.—Inset in the floor of the choir are grave slabs. (Figs. 143, 144, 145.)

(a) 4 feet 9 inches by 1 foot 1 inch, bears a sword with strongly depressed quillons flanked by a border of running foliaceous ornament.

(b) 5 feet 4 inches by 1 foot 2 inches, with a pointed foot bears a sword with slightly depressed quillons; above the hilt is a rayed petal pattern, and the sides are bordered with foliaceous scrolls.

(c) 5 feet 7 inches by 1 foot 6 inches, has a segmental foot; it bears a sword with depressed quillons and the ornament is of similar type to (b).

(d) 6 feet $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $2\frac{1}{4}$ feet, has a billet ornament on the border. The sword has

depressed quillons and the scroll pattern comprises interlaced foliage enclosing animals and birds.

On the sill of the south-west window of the nave a small tombstone of schist has been set up. It is in the form of a disc-headed cross, measuring 2 feet 1 inch in height and 1 foot $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches over the transom. The obverse



FIG. 87.—Disc-headed cross: St Clement's Church, Rodil (No. 111).

bears a crucifixion; the Christ is represented with arms pendent and legs crossed, clad in a loin cloth. The reverse bears an interlaced pattern, terminating at the foot in a trefoil.

STONE BASIN.—A roughly wrought stone basin lies in the north-west angle of the nave; it measures 1 foot $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 1 foot $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 1 foot 3 inches in height. The basin is 1 foot in diameter, is cone-shaped and has a depth of $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches.

Rodil was repaired in 1784, 1787 and in 1873. It is in good repair and is now in custody of H.M. Office of Works.

ENCLOSURE.—Roughly parallel with the west wall of the tower, a continuous alinement of cleft gneiss boulders returns from the south wall of the graveyard southwards as a boundary wall; while it may be part of the precinct boundary, there is no evidence of date of erection.



FIG. 88 --Detail of centre part of Sculptured Tomb.



FIG. 89—Sculptured Tomb.

ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH, RODIL (No. 111).

To face p. 36.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—Dean Monro writes:—“Within the south pair of this ile lyes ane monastery with ane steipill, quhilk was foundit and biggit by McCloyd of Harrey, callit Roodill.” This (c. 1549) is the earliest reference to the place, and the Dean would seem to be using monastery like “minster” as equivalent to a church. There is no other evidence of a monastic establishment or of any ancient use of the term “priory”; while in 1561 among the parsonages pertaining to the Bishop of the Isles is reckoned “the personage of Roidill in Herris.”¹ The Clement of the dedication, shown on the tomb with mitre and crook and holding a skull in his right hand, is presumably not Clement of Rome, pope and martyr, who in his representations has a papal tiara, archiepiscopal cross and an anchor as symbol. There was a Clement, bishop of Dunblane, who died in 1258 or 1266, and is commemorated under March 19 in the post-Reformation calendar of David Camerarius. He was a member of the Dominican Order.² In Strath, Skye, are a Tobar Chliamain or Clement’s Well, and a Cathair Chliamain or Clement’s Chair, both near Cill Chriosd (Art. No. 645). A church in Dundee³ and a chapel for fishermen at Footdee, Aberdeen, were dedicated to Clement of Rome.

¹ *Collect. de Reb. Alb.*, p. 4.

² *Scotichronicon*, Lib. X. cap. xi.

³ *Cal. Papal Reg.* (1442), IX., p. 323.

Harris xxviii. 29, 30, 31 July 1923.

112. Church, Island of Killegray.—At the north-western extremity of the island of Killegray in the Sound of Harris, on a small promontory rising direct some 20 feet above the shore, are the grass-covered foundations of a rectangular building rising less than a foot above the ground. It lies almost due east and west, and measures 21 feet in length by 12 feet in breadth internally, the mound of the wall being about 3 feet 6 inches thick. The door seems to have been in the centre of the western gable.

About $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to the south is a fine spring of water.

The church and the well are in all likelihood the Teampull na h’Annait and the Tobar na h’Annait mentioned in *The Statistical Account*, X., p. 375.

Part of the wall of Killegray House, according to local tradition, is all that remains of an old church said to have occupied this site.

Harris xxii (unnoted). 6 June 1914.

113. Chapel, Ensay.—This small undistinguished structure stands 100 yards north of Ensay House; it is single chambered and oblong on plan, measuring 23 by 12 feet, within walls averaging $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness. The orientation is south of east. The walls are built of random rubble in mortar. The gables are intaken internally about wall-head level, and there is an internal scarcement waist high from the floor. The windows are $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide at daylight and splay inwardly to a width of 2 feet 7 inches. They are built for glazing

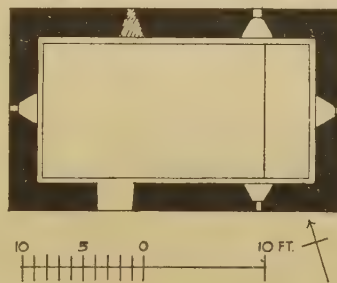


FIG. 90.—Chapel, Ensay (No. 113).

cases and, save the east window, which has a sconcion arch, are lintelled within and without; the entrance, which is in the south wall, is arched internally and externally. At one time the structure was used as a stable, but in 1910 it was restored as a private chapel, and to this date the present altar step and small recess in the west wall may be referred.

STONE BASIN.—Beside the entrance lies a drum of granite 1 foot 7 inches by 1 foot 5 inches by 1 foot 4 inches, in which a basin 12 inches in diameter and $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth is wrought.

Harris xxii. 27 July 1923.

114. Teampull (?), Risgary, Berneray.—On an old building locally called a Teampull but used now as a byre is a modern tablet stating in Latin that it was the birthplace of Sir Norman Macleod of Berneray (XVII. cent.). The birthplace, however, is said to have been 20 yards north of the present building.

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 14 August 1914.

115. Sculptured Stone, Cill Aiseam, Bruist, Berneray.—About 700 yards north-north-west of the Established Church, at the eastern end of a marsh, is a rough piece of ground covered with grass-grown hillocks, known as Cill Aiseam. No traces of the foundations of the church indicated by the name are now visible, but a carved stone, apparently part of a cross-shaft found many years ago at this place, is now preserved in the National Museum of Antiquities. It is a rectangular slab of bluish green gneiss 3 feet 8 inches long, 1 foot 7 inches wide and 3 inches thick, and has sculptured on one face a panel bearing an interlaced design, the bands double beaded and a key pattern below.

See *Early Chr. Mon.*, p. 113.

Harris xxvi. 14 August 1914.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(DUNS.)

117. Dun, Loch an Duin, Taransay.—On an islet some 35 yards from the south-eastern shore of Loch an Duin, a small loch in the hills on the island of Taransay, are the remains of a dun, the wall of which rises abruptly from the water's edge. It is connected with the shore by a causeway 4 feet wide, with a slight curve near the middle. The building is D-shaped on plan, the straight side being towards the north-west, the side away from the shore. The outer face of the wall is still in position for a height of 6 feet to the south-west, 4 feet 6 inches on the south-east and 4 feet to the north-east, but the greater part of the straight north-western side has collapsed. Evidence of an outer casing or possibly gallery wall 3 feet 6 inches

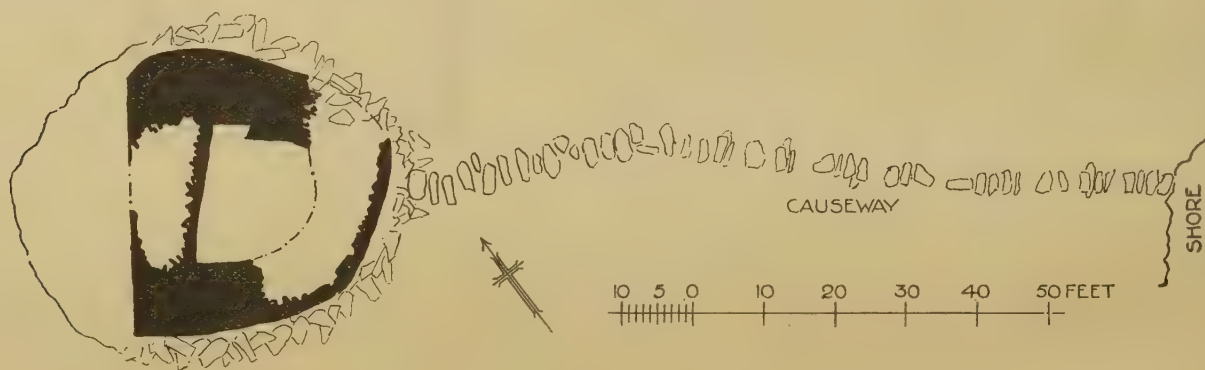


FIG. 91.—Dun, Loch an Duin, Taransay (No. 117).

116. Cross Slab, Clach an Teampuill, Loch na h-Uidhe, Taransay.—On a grassy slope about 60 yards above the high-water mark at the north-eastern corner of the sands at Loch na h-Uidhe is a rough four-sided pillar stone, measuring 5 feet 9 inches in height, from 15 inches at the base to 18 inches near the top in breadth, and 11 inches in thickness, facing the west with a slight slant in that direction. On the western face is an incised Latin cross 23 inches in length and 16 inches across the arms, which reach to within 1 inch of each edge of the stone. The lateral and top arms measure 5½ inches in length and 4½ inches in breadth, and the shaft 13 inches in length and 5½ inches in breadth. (Fig. 262.)

Harris xii. 17 July 1914.

thick is seen at the southern extremity of the latter, a structural feature confined to this side. Towards the north-west the inner face of the building shows a height of 3 feet, but on the opposite and curved side it is almost entirely obscured by tumbled stones. The wall varies from 8½ feet to 10 feet in width, and the interior of the dun is 20 feet from north-east to south-west and 16 feet across. At the west end of the north-east wall is a recess 5½ feet long by 1½ feet deep. The entrance is not distinguishable, but has probably been towards the east. (Fig. 99.)

Harris xii. 17 July 1914.

118. Dun near Paible, Taransay.—About 500 yards north-east of Paible, on the eastern side of

the island of Taransay, are the remains of a dun occupying a rocky knoll some 80 yards from the shore and about 50 feet above sea-level. The summit of the knoll rises 10 feet above a hollow on the landward side to the north-west and about 30 feet above the grassy slope to the south-east, and it is approached from the south-west over a gradual incline. So much of the dun has been removed that it is impossible to ascertain the thickness of the wall, but its outer face can be traced all round, except towards the south-east. The best preserved section, towards the west immediately to the south of the entrance, still shows a height of about 4 feet. The building is slightly oval on plan, measuring externally some 58 feet from north to south and 62 feet from east to west. The entrance is on the west, but is broken down on the north side. It seems to have been about 3 feet 3 inches wide on the outside. A long slab lying beside the wall at this part may have been a lintel. The entrance passage, 21 feet in length, leads into an apsidal chamber, the curved end towards the north measuring 13 feet across the chord from east to west and 10 feet 6 inches from north to south; from the opposite side of the chamber a passage 2 feet in breadth extends eastwards for 3 feet, where it turns at a right angle towards the south, and can be traced for a distance of 2 feet 6 inches by the lower course of its western wall. The wall of the chamber and the passage to the east are marked by a single course of stones. The distance between the crown of the apse and the outer face of the wall of the fort is 17 feet 6 inches.

A number of small enclosures of recent date have been built against the outer wall of the dun to the north and west, but some 30 feet from the northern wall are slight traces of a stone wall which may have formed an outer defence on this side.

Harris xii. 17 July 1914.

119. Dun, Seana Chaisteal, Pabbay.—Situated on a rocky mound on the south-east slope of Beinn a Charnain, the hill which occupies the greater part of the island of Pabbay, in the Sound of Harris, some 250 yards from the south-east shore of the island and about 120 feet above sea-level, are the remains of the dun, Seana Chaisteal ("old castle"). It has been

a circular building, 53 feet in diameter externally, with a wall about 10 feet thick. Except round the north-eastern arc the outer facing of the wall is still traceable, in parts two and three courses of good drystone masonry, rising 1 foot 6 inches to 2 feet in height, being in position. There is no trace of the entrance.

To the west is an irregularly shaped enclosure, extending 30 yards from the dun, which, judging from the thinness of its wall and the character of the building, seems of later date, as is a circular structure to the north-west measuring 15 feet in diameter.

Harris xxi. 10 June 1914.

120. Dun, Eilean an Dunain, Island of Berneray.—On a rocky point on the southern shore of Berneray, surrounded at high water and rising only a foot or two above the highest tides, are the remains of a dun, consisting of a mass of tumbled stones of large size spread over a roughly circular space about 60 feet in diameter. In the interior of the area, about 18 feet from the south-west edge, is a line of walling showing a slight curve traceable for about 18 feet from west-north-west and east-south-east, while on the south-west edge of the tumbled stones is a short section of the wall of a circular building, the concavity facing the sea.

Harris xxvi. 14 August 1914.

121. Dun near Rodil.—About 500 yards north-east of Rodil House, occupying a fine position on the summit of a rocky knoll rising from 20 to 50 feet above the immediate surroundings and over 100 feet above sea-level, is a very much dilapidated dun. In several places the lowest course of the outer facing of the wall is seen, showing the building to have been circular with an outside diameter of 45 feet. A mass of tumbled stones fills the interior and rises 6 feet above the outside foundation course; the wall seems to have been about 8 feet thick. The south-eastern extension of the summit of the knoll has probably been enclosed by a wall forming an outer court extending some 60 feet from the wall of the inner building.

Harris xxviii. 11 June 1914.

122. Dun Stuaidh, Loch Rodil.—Bisecting the inner end of Loch Rodil is a long narrow spit of land, known as Stuaidh, which rises from 25 to 35 feet above sea-level, and is connected with the mainland of Harris to the north by a narrow isthmus rising only a foot or two above ordinary tides and submerged during high tides. For a considerable part of the circumference of the peninsula the sides, being precipitous and unscalable, require no further defence, but towards the landward end and the extreme southern point the summit is accessible over steep rocks, and has been defended at these parts by a wall built on the edge of them. Across the northern or landward end are the remains of a stone rampart showing a width of 7 feet and a height of 2 feet, and this wall can be traced along the western flank until the precipice is reached; at the southern end the remnant of a wall is also discernible. In places two and three courses of the outer face of the wall remain *in situ*. The fortified area measures about 90 yards in length from north-north-west to south-south-east and 26 yards across the southern part, but it widens considerably towards the north. The fort has been approached by a narrow path slanting up the steep northern end, the entrance through the wall at this part being clearly defined, but not measurable. Behind the wall on the west side of the entrance are traces of an oval enclosure 33 feet long and 10 feet broad, while on the western side of the narrow part of the summit there seems to have been another enclosure.

Harris xxviii (unnoted). 8 June 1914.

123. Dunan Ruadh, Island of Killegray.—On the south-western side of the island of Killegray, about 60 feet from the shore, is a rocky tidal islet, rising about 15 feet above the strand on the landward side and tailing away into the sea. The highest part of the rock, a grass-covered plateau, is surrounded by the remains of a stone wall overgrown with grass rising about 3 feet above the interior. A small part of the outer facing of the wall, which seems to have been about 8 feet thick, is seen towards the north. The defended area is almost circular, the internal diameter measuring 23 feet from east to west and 21 feet from north to south.

Harris xxvii. 6 June 1914.

124. Dun, Loch Langavat, South Harris.—About 400 yards from the extreme northern end of Loch Langavat, some $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles south-east of the sea-shore at Borvemore, and over 100 feet above sea level, is a small circular island noticeable amongst its heather covered neighbours by being covered with a luxuriant growth of greenery. It has been defended by a stone wall built on the water's edge, but this is now so much dilapidated that the building appears as a truncated cone about 50 feet in diameter and 7 feet in height. A causeway about 20 yards in length and 5 feet in breadth, submerged for about half its length in the centre, connects the dun with the eastern shore of the loch.

Harris xvii. 4 June 1914.

125. Dun Borge, Borvemore.—On the highest of a group of rocky knolls about $\frac{1}{8}$ mile south of Borge Lodge, at an elevation of nearly 200 feet above sea-level, and 50 feet above the immediate surrounding rough ground, are the ruins of Dun Borge, or Dun Bhuirigh as it is sometimes called in the locality. The summit of the knoll is roughly oval in plan, the main axis being east and west, and its western half is occupied by a circular building of stone measuring some 46 feet in diameter all over, while to the east there is a crescentic outer court extending at most about 35 feet from the main structure. The wall of the main building is from 13 to 14 feet thick, and founded on the sloping sides of the knoll, though almost reduced to the level of the interior and in places entirely obliterated on the inside, is traceable round a considerable part of its perimeter, where in places it still attains a height of 6 feet. Round the western arc there is a facing wall, built against the exterior of the main wall, showing a thickness of 3 feet 6 inches at its widest and attenuating towards the northern and southern ends. The entrance has been from the outer court to the east, the southern wall being still traceable.

Harris xvii. 4 June 1914.

CAIRNS.

126. Chambered Cairn (remains) near Cladh Maolrithe, Berneray.—On the brow of the steep brae running down to the eastern shore of Loch

Borve, Berneray, about 200 yards south-west of Cladh Maolrithe, at an elevation of some 50 feet above sea-level, are two slabs set on edge and two others lying prostrate, evidently the remains of the chamber of a cairn which had run north and south. The upright slabs 4 feet 6 inches in length by 2 feet 2 inches in height and 4 feet 11 inches in length by 3 feet 9 inches in height converge slightly towards their south extremities, the distance between them at this point being 2 feet 10 inches. The prostrate stones 5 feet 7 inches by 2 feet 2 inches and 7 feet 4 inches by 4 feet 8 inches lie immediately to the north and north-west of the upright stones. Otherwise the cairn has been entirely removed. (Fig. 95.)

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 14 August 1914.

127. Cairn, Borve, Berneray.—On the machair, west of the township of Borve, about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile west of the summit of Borve Hill, near the eastern edge of the sand dunes, which occupy the flat western portion of the island of Berneray, are the remains of a small cairn of stones, 14 feet in diameter and 1 foot 6 inches in height, on the southern edge of which is a stone boulder 2 feet 9 inches high and 7 feet in girth set on end. Some 78 feet south is a block of stone shaped like a chair with the back to the south measuring 4 feet 6 inches in length, and 1 foot 7 inches broad, the back being 2 feet 9 inches in height and the seat 1 foot 5 inches high. About 31 feet 6 inches to the north-north-west of the cairn is another standing stone 2 feet 6 inches in height by 1 foot square.

The stone cist containing human remains, found in 1875 and noted on the O.S. map, must have been discovered at this site or in its immediate vicinity.

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 14 August 1914.

128. Cairns, Graves and Enclosures, Rudh' an Teampuill.—Among the sandhills on the neck of the Rudh' an Teampull promontory, to the north of the church An Teampull (No. 108), are considerable wind-swept areas littered with shells and occasional animal bones. In places circular heaps of stone up to 12 feet in diameter and 1 foot in height resembling small cairns, as well as other settings of stone including a grave and hut circles, have been

exposed. The grave measures 5 feet 2 inches in length and 1 foot 6 inches in breadth, and is formed by small slabs less than 1 foot in length and about 1 foot in height set on end nearly touching, four on one side and five on the other, with a single stone at each end. The main axis of the grave lies slightly west of north and east of south (170° mag.) and it contains a few portions of a human skeleton, two small pieces of the skull and several sections of the long bones not exceeding 6 inches in length being recognisable. Near each end of the grave was a shapeless mass of stones. A group of structures in an adjoining wind-swept area showed a circular ring of stone, 4 feet 3 inches in diameter at the top, sloping inwardly for a depth of about 1 foot, from the west-south-west edge of which two rows of small flat stones set on edge and 14 inches apart extended for a distance of 3 feet 9 inches. Some 4 feet to the south-south-east of the circular structure was a circular setting of stones like a hut circle with an internal diameter of 9 feet, and about 6 feet to the west was a similar structure 11 feet in diameter. To the north was a second circular ring of small flat stones set on edge measuring 4 feet in diameter. Nothing but clean sand was found within this structure, but in the first a dark layer about one inch thick was found about the level of the foundation of the structure. (Fig. 97.)

On the edge of a sand hill towards the east side of the peninsula is a somewhat rectangular area with rounded corners enclosed by a line of small boulders. Along the main axis which runs almost north-west and south-east it measures 34 feet, while it is 13 feet broad. A curvilinear setting of similar stones is visible round the ends of the enclosure set at a distance of 7 feet from the north-west end and 10 feet from the south-east end. Outside the southern corner a layer of blackened sand indicated the position of a fire-place.

Fragments of unornamented hand-made pottery are found scattered over the greater part of the shell-covered area.

Harris xvii (unnoted). 9 June 1914.

129. Cairn near Northtown.—About 20 yards to the east of the road from Rodil to Borve, some 400 yards south of the fork where the Northtown road branches off on a rocky

knoll, about 150 feet above sea-level, are the remains of a small cairn known as Charnan Macaskill. It seems to have been about 15 feet in diameter.

Harris xvii (unnoted). 9 June 1914.

130. Cairn, Borve.—About 500 yards west of Borve Lodge on the summit of a slight knove on the north side of a small burn, some 30 yards from the shore, and 25 feet above high-water mark, is a small cairn of stones 13 feet in diameter, now reduced to a height of 1 foot.

To the south at a distance of 6 feet is a setting of slabs forming the northern side and eastern and western ends of a rectangular enclosure about 16 feet in length and 10 feet in breadth. On the northern side are three slabs set on end, 3 feet 4 inches, 4 feet 10 inches, and 3 feet 3 inches in length, and 2 feet 6 inches, 2 feet 1 inch, and 1 foot in height respectively, intervals of 2 feet and 4 feet separating the western and eastern stones from the central slab. The western end is formed by three slabs placed in an irregular line and one small stone is seen at the opposite end. Two prostrate slabs, the larger measuring 6 feet in length and 6 feet in breadth, lie on the southern side. The structure has been much disturbed and probably only the northern side and western end are in their original position.

Harris xvii (unnoted). 4 June 1914.

131. Chambered Cairn (denuded), Coir Fhinn, Nisabost.—Barely $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-north-east of Borve Lodge, on a gently sloping rocky hillside, at the south and higher side of the road to Tarbert, about 400 yards distant from and 40 feet higher than the high-water mark at Traigh Nisabost, is a setting of large stones known as Coir Fhinn, apparently the remains of a chambered cairn. Encroaching on the side of the road, the portable stones of the cairn have probably been used as road metal, and nothing of the mound survives, though a number of large boulders lie strewn about. There are four large slabs on the north-west set on end, two almost touching, and the others 11 and 13 inches apart, varying from 3 feet 4 inches to 4 feet 3 inches in height, and from 2 feet 2 inches to 7 feet 8 inches in width; and other four rather smaller on the south-east,

while two long pillars, 6 feet and 8 feet 9 inches in length respectively, lie prostrate towards the east, the outer extremities being 4 feet apart. Within the area enclosed by the upright stones, which is an oval 22 feet long, is a large irregularly shaped flat slab measuring 6 feet 8 inches long, 7 feet 2



FIG. 92.—Chambered Cairn, Coir Fhinn, Nisabost (No. 131).

inches broad and 1 foot 5 inches thick at the thickest part, under which a human skull is said to have been found. (Fig. 98.)

Harris xvii. 4 June 1914.

CIRCLES AND STANDING STONES.

132. Stone Circle (Remains of), Bhruist, Berneray.—About 300 yards east of the north end of Loch Bhruist, near the watershed of the island of Berneray, is a group of five large stones, possibly the remains of a stone circle. Four of the stones are not only prostrate, but seem to have been removed from their original positions. The one undisturbed pillar stone is 3 feet 10 inches high and 7 feet 6 inches in girth, and has a large irregular boulder, 7 feet 4 inches long by 3 feet broad and 2 feet 6 inches thick, lying against its north-west base. Two other blocks, 3 feet 8 inches in length by 2 feet in breadth and 4 feet 8 inches in length by 2 feet 3 inches in breadth, lie 8 feet 8 inches

and 20 feet 2 inches distant respectively from the standing stone to the north-west. A third prostrate stone, 3 feet 6 inches by 2 feet, lies some 53 feet 8 inches south by west of the erect pillar and 35 feet 6 inches from the nearest prostrate pillar.

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 14 August 1914.

133. Standing Stone, Cladh Maolrithe, Berneray.—Near the summit of the rising ground to the north-east of Loch Borve on the south shore of the island of Berneray, at an elevation of rather more than 100 feet above sea-level, is a squarish oval enclosure hollow in the centre, measuring about 45 yards in length and breadth and surrounded by the remains of an earthen wall spread over a considerable width. Towards the north-east of the enclosure, which is a disused burying ground, is a fine standing stone of regular width, measuring 8 feet 6 inches in height, 3 feet 8 inches in breadth, and 11 inches in thickness at most, facing the south and inclining slightly in that direction.

Harris xxvi. 13 August 1914.

134. Standing Stones (Cnoc na Greana).—On a knowe, Cnoc na Greana ("sun's knowe"), overlooking Bays Loch on the east side of Berneray, about 200 yards north-east of the United Free Church, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, is a large ice-carried boulder with two standing stones and a prostrate stone to the east of it placed so as to form the southern arc of a circle. Two other boulders to the north and north-west may have formed part of the stone setting but they seem to have been dislodged, probably in the formation of the old track which passes between them. Along the eastern continuation of the arc formed by the erect stones is a slight bank of soil. The large boulder, almost pentagonal on plan, is 5 feet high with the sides varying from 3 feet to 4 feet 10 inches in length; the adjoining erect stone 2 feet 5 inches to the east is 3 feet 4 inches high, 2 feet 6 inches across the inner face and 1 foot 7 inches thick at most; the other of rhomboidal plan, 1 foot 6 inches away, is 2 feet 9 inches high and 7 feet in girth, and the prostrate stone, lying 3 feet from the last, is 3 feet 2 inches in length. (Fig. 96.)

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 14 August 1914.

135. Standing Stone, "Clach Mhic Leoid."—Overlooking the Sound of Taransay, on the western slope of the peninsula at Nisabost, some 250 yards from the shore and 100 feet above sea-level, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north by east of Borve Lodge, is the very fine standing stone, Clach Mhic Leoid, measuring 10 feet 6 inches in height, 4 feet 6 inches in breadth, and from 10 to 16 inches in thickness. Placed almost due east and west (115° mag.), the top which has narrowed to about 3 feet in width inclines about 1 foot 6 inches towards the south. For a distance of from 3 feet to 4 feet round the base the ground is packed with small boulders, and 8 feet 6 inches to the west are two slabs 3 feet long, 2 feet 6 inches high and 9 inches thick, and 2 feet 6 inches long, 1 foot 6 inches high and 6 inches thick respectively, set on edge, but not quite in line, at right angles to the face of the standing stone, with two small stones placed between them. The intervening space between the monolith and these slabs contains many stones. (Fig. 270.)

Harris xii. 4 June 1914.

136. Standing Stone, Remains of Circle, Borvemore.—About 70 yards from the shore and about 30 feet above sea-level, on cultivated ground, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-west of Borvemore, is a standing stone facing the south-east. It measures 6 feet 7 inches in height, 2 feet 9 inches in breadth, and from 8 inches to 1 foot 7 inches in thickness. Human remains are said to have been found near it in 1864. It seems to have formed part of a stone circle, as other four pillar stones lie prostrate near it. The first of these, which is partly buried, lies 32 feet to the south and measures at least 6 feet in length, 1 foot 6 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 6 inches in thickness; the second, 40 feet to the south-east of the standing stone, is 8 feet long, 2 feet 2 inches broad, and 1 foot 3 inches thick at least; the third, about 60 feet beyond the second, is 6 feet in length and 2 feet 1 inch in breadth; and the fourth, 25 feet south-west of the third, measures 4 feet in length and over 2 feet in breadth. These stones have all been removed from their original position, and their present arrangement gives no suggestion of the size of the circle.

Harris xvii. 5 June 1914.

137. Standing Stone, Ensay.—On the Cnoc a Chaisteil, about 200 yards north by west of Ensay House, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, is an irregularly shaped narrow slab of stone set on end with a considerable slant to the west, measuring 4 feet 8 inches in height, 1 foot 9 inches in breadth and 8 inches in thickness.

Harris xxii. 6 June 1914.

SITES.

138. Dun.—The site of a dun on a level shelf on the southern slope of Creag Huristen, about 400 yards west of Bailenacille and about the same distance from the shore, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, is indicated by an irregular heap of stones about 20 yards across, rising to a height of about 10 feet above the surrounding ground.

Harris xxi. 10 June 1914.

139. Dun, Cnoc a Chaisteil, Ensay House.—About 250 yards north of Ensay House on the east side of the island of Ensay in the Sound of Harris is a small hill, known as Cnoc a Chaisteil ("Castle Hill"), said to be the site of an old castle. No trace of this building is visible, but on a rocky knoll rising about 15 feet above the surrounding level and measuring about 36 feet across is a curved mound, possibly the remains of the wall of a dun which has otherwise disappeared.

Harris xxii. 6 June 1914.

140. Dunan, Loch Borge, Berneray.—A rocky promontory on the east side of Loch Borge, near its mouth, is the site of a dun which is now entirely obliterated. Another dun, Dun Bhuirgh, is said to have been situated on the west of Borge Hill, no doubt giving the name to the hill. Local tradition says that a pot of gold will be found at the spot from which the three duns were visible. One day the ground will open up before a man, who will secure an *ulaidh* (treasure) if he throws his hat or stick or any part of his dress on it without first winking. Should he wink the ground will close up and it will be impossible to find the gold.

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 14 August 1914.

141. Dun or Cairn, Taransay.—On a grassy plateau on the hillside, at an elevation of about 50 feet above sea-level and about 100 yards distant from the shore on the east side of the island of Taransay, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of Corran Raah, is a mound of stones in the shape of a truncated cone measuring 10 feet in height and 40 feet in diameter. It is in such a state of dilapidation that without excavation it is impossible to tell its character. The outer face of a wall appears in various parts of the mound, but this seems to be of late construction.

Harris xii (unnoted). 17 July 1914.

142. Dun Chlach, Taransay.—The site of this dun on the rising ground, some 600 yards from the extremity of Corran Raah, a long narrow sandy spit on the eastern shore of the island of Taransay, cannot now be detected. Either all the stones have been removed to build an adjoining dyke or the site is covered with blown sand.

Harris xii. 17 July 1914.

143. Dun Boraigeo, Strond.—On the northern shore of the Sound of Harris and south-east of the southern end of the township of Strond is Boraigeo Point, a rough rocky point rising 20 feet above high-water at the most and surrounded by water for a considerable part of the day. On the landward side are the remains of a stone wall of considerable strength. The rock is so rough and irregular in shape and of such limited area that it could only have provided a temporary refuge for a very small number of people.

Harris xxvii (unnoted). 8 June 1914.

144. Dun Innisgall, Carminish Islands.—On a small tidal island on the northern shore of the Sound of Harris, opposite the west end of the township of Carminish, are the very slight remains of a dun built on the summit which does not rise more than 8 feet above high-water mark. The over-all diameter is about 36 feet, and it is connected with the larger tidal island which lies outside it to the west by a causeway 26 yards in length and 6 feet in breadth.

Harris xxii (unnoted). 8 June 1914.



FIG. 93—Teampull Mhoire, Pabbay (No. 107).



FIG. 94—Chapel Rudh' an Teampuill (No. 108).



FIG. 95—Chambered Cairn, Berneray (No. 126).



FIG. 96—Standing Stones, Cnoc na Greana (No. 134).

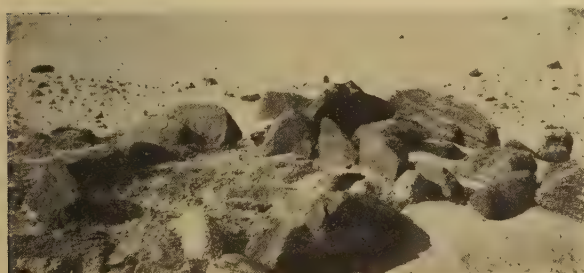


FIG. 97—Circular Structure, Rudh' an Teampuill (No. 128).

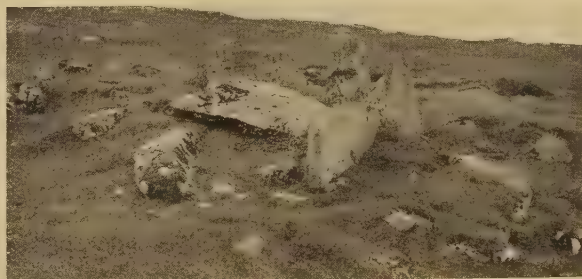


FIG. 98—Coir Fhinn, Nisabost (No. 131).

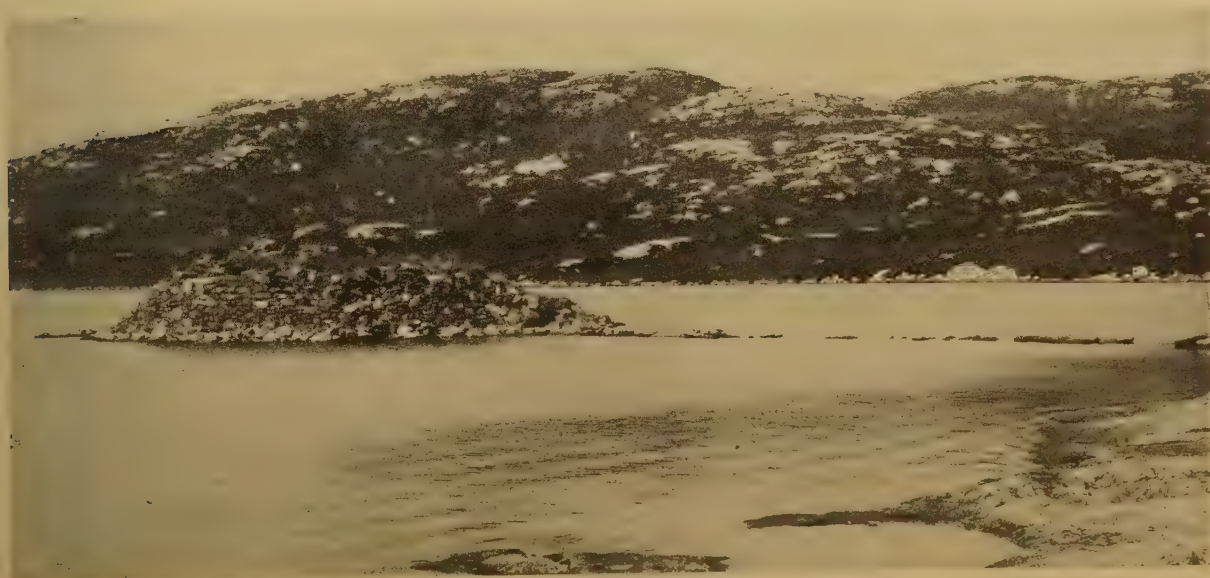


FIG. 99—Dun, Loch an Duin, Taransay (No. 117).

145. Dun in Loch an Duin, Island of Scalpay.—About 100 yards from the north side of Loch an Duin is a small island in the shape of a truncated cone covered by a luxurious growth of greenery, thus differing from the other islands in the loch. It is said to be connected to the shore by a submerged causeway. There is said to be a second defended site in the loch.

Harris xiv. 16 July 1914.

146. Dun Vee, Loch Grosebay.—On the summit of a high rocky promontory on the northern shore of Loch Grosebay, a mile east-south-east of the township of Grosebay, is the traditional site of Dun Vee, but there is no evidence of a dun ever having existed here.

Harris xix. 20 July 1914.

147. Dun.—This site, marked on the O.S. map, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east by south of Dunan Ruadh, is on a tidal islet. All traces of defensive works have disappeared.

Harris xxvii. 6 June 1914.

148. Cairn, Island of Pabbay.—On the southern slope of the island of Pabbay, about 400 yards east of Bailenacille, are the scanty remains of what has probably been a circular cairn, 32 feet in diameter. The site is marked by a covering of stones with a curb-like setting of small blocks set round the periphery.

Harris xxi (unnoted). 10 June 1914.

149. Earth-house and Cairns, Nisabost.—The earth-house among the sand dunes on the peninsula at Nisabost, about 200 yards north-west of the road $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles north by east of Borge Lodge, is covered with sand. The southern curve of a heap of stones appearing on the surface of a sandhill is pointed out as the building of the earth-house, but this has more the appearance of a cairn with a diameter of at least 50 feet and a height of 16 feet. Another large mound of stones very slightly bared is seen about 25 yards to the west, while at a lower level to the east a number of small heaps of stones, possibly the apices of cairns, just appear above the sand, but too little of

their structure is visible to judge of their character.

Harris xvii. 4 June 1914.

150. Earth-houses (supposed site of), Maol Bhàn, Berneray.—Amongst the sandhills at the north-west of the island of Berneray there used to be an extensive sand dune noted as Maol Bhàn ("white brow") on the O.S. map, but this has almost entirely been swept away by the wind, leaving two large hillocks, the sides of which are covered with kitchen midden refuse, including animal bones, shells of limpet, cockle, periwinkle and razor fish, as well as fragments of hand-made pottery and many fire-fractured stones. On the summit and on the slopes of these sandy mounds are great quantities of stones, dislodged by wind denudation and now showing no structural arrangement. As many stones have also been removed by crofters, it is impossible to say whether they formed only hut circles or were earth-houses of the class found at Udal and other places on the sandy peninsula to the north of Sollas, in the adjoining island of North Uist, some 7 miles to the south-west. Pins and needles of bronze and bone, as well as other objects of the same material, have been found on these sites. On the northern dune an oval plate of bone, lacking one side and perforated by numerous holes round the margin, and a bronze pin with a projecting ring head have been found, and on the southern site a pin of the same type, but of iron, was recovered. A single hammer stone was also found at the latter place. The 6-inch O.S. map records that a stone cist containing human remains was found here in 1858.

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 13 August 1914.

151. Earth-house (site of), Borge, Berneray.—On a slight mound where the rocky ground at the foot of Borge Hill and the sand dunes meet, to the west of the township of Borge, is the site of an earth-house which was discovered seven or eight years ago. The stones were removed for building purposes.

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 14 August 1914.

152. Earth-house (site of), Sand Hill, Berneray.—On the southern slope of Sand Hill in the north-east corner of the island of Berneray

is a piece of broken ground showing kitchen midden remains. This is said to be the site of an earth-house which has been removed. Shells and animal bones as well as fragments of pottery are to be seen and bronze pins have been found.

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 15 August 1914.

153. Earth-house (site of), Paible, Taransay.—About 100 yards east of the sites of the two churches at Paible, Taransay, in the face of the bluff above the landing-place, an earth-house (?) was discovered many years ago. The stones were removed for building and road making. A layer of kitchen midden refuse is seen out-cropping on the face of the bluff.

Harris xii (unnoted). 17 July 1914.

154. Earth-house, Northtown.—This earth-house was discovered many years ago on a slightly rising piece of ground on the neck of land connecting the isthmus of Toe Head peninsula to the mainland of Harris, less than 10 feet above high-water mark and 200 yards distant from the shore to the east. Efforts were made some years after to locate the entrance, but without success.

Harris xxii. 9 June 1914.

155. Kitchen Middens, Northtown.—On the isthmus connecting the Toe Head peninsula with the mainland of Harris, about 300 yards north of the last house at Northtown, are a number of shell heaps which have been uncovered by the wind blowing away the covering of sand. There are many fragments of undecorated hand-made pottery and animal bones among the shell refuse.

Harris xvii (unnoted). 9 June 1914.

156. Kitchen Midden, near Sheabie, Berneray.—About 400 yards north of the dun on Eilean an Dunain (No. 120) is a large sandy knowe, known as Cnoc nan Claignean ("knowe of the skulls"), the slopes of which, where broken by rabbits, show kitchen midden refuse. Pins of bone and human remains have been found at this place.

Harris xxvi (unnoted). 14 August 1914.

157. Corn Mill, Loch Cromlach, Taransay.—Built over Allt à Mhuilinn, the stream that drains Loch Cromlach, 100 yards south of the loch, are the remains of a corn mill, probably of no great age. The mill has been circular and of horizontal type, roughly built of drystone masonry. One of the mill stones lies outside the ruin.

Harris xii. 27 July 1923.

ST. KILDA.

158. Earth-house, St Kilda.—At the western end of the village of St Kilda the ground rises slightly towards the north, and, at a spot about 100 yards north-west of the township, in close proximity to the present burial ground, an earth-house was accidentally discovered about 1844, and opened and examined in 1876.¹ The internal passage, which measures about 34 feet in length by approximately 4 feet in height and 3½ feet broad, is roughly lined with stones of various sizes, apparently unworked. There is one side chamber 6 ft. 2 ins. long and evidence of two others. Here and there undressed roofing slabs of about 8 inches in thickness remain *in situ*. When disclosed in 1876 the floor was found to be of flat stones with a drain below. It was covered with peat ash and soot in a layer about a foot thick, in which were found bones of animals and sea-fowl, burnt limpet shells, "a large number of rude stone implements resembling hatchets and wedges," "part of a lamp," and some fragments of coarse pottery.² (Figs. 74, 75.)

22 July 1924.

¹ See *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, XII., pp. 186-7; cf. also VII., p. 172.

² Mr Sands, who had the place opened in 1876, writes: "The men told me that they had often found small vessels of clay in the earth, but had never seen any pottery made, nor heard that it had ever been made in Hirta. Stone lamps are still to be seen above ground, and some old men told me they had often used them when in Berneray

and Soa. It is remarkable that all to whom I showed the implements recognised them at a glance. . . . 'Sean lamhog, sean sgian, old axe, old knife,' they said. . . . It is probable that stone implements were used in St Kilda at a very recent date." (*As cited*, p. 187.) Mr R. Kearton says the place "had been only partially explored and to a great extent destroyed." Among other relics he found an iron spear-head. (*With Nature and a Camera* (1897), p. 13.)

Note.—Mr Sands refers to an ancient building "on the face of the hill called Sgal overlooking the bay. . . . It had been covered with stones, but was found again last summer (1875). I went and threw out the rubbish. It is built with comparatively small stones. . . . It contains two *croopan*" (*i.e.* wall beds). He also notes what Martin, in his *Late Voyage to St Kilda* (1698), called *Tigh na Bana-ghaisgeach*, "House of the Female Warrior." "It is circular in form, about 9 feet in diameter, and built of flat stones, which converge as they ascend, until the space becomes so narrow that a single stone covers it. This house is covered outside with earth and turf. . . . There were three *croopan* or beds in the wall." One of these had already been destroyed, and subsequently a large quantity of stones were taken away. This place was a beehive shieling of the type described on p. xli, as its local name, *Airidh mhor* ("big shieling"), indicated. A piece of wall on the island, called The Dun, is described by Mr Sands on pp. 189-90. Cf. also *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, X., pp. 702-11. Dr Ross, architect, Inverness, from personal inspection, spoke of it in 1884 in these terms: "A rude wall across the promontory, near the extreme end, is pointed out as the remains of a fortification." (*Trans. Inverness Scient. Socy. and Field Club*, Vol. III., p. 80.) There is an illustration of a bit of the wall in *St Kilda*, by Norman Heathcote (1900), p. 20. Mr Sands could discover no stone circle on the island of Boreray, as claimed by the Rev. K. Macaulay in his account (1764), "and the St Kildans seem never to have heard of it." (*Ibid.*, XII., p. 189.) On *Tigh an Stallair* on Boreray, of which nothing now remains, see *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, VII., pp. 173-4, and XII., p. 189.

NORTH UIST.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES, CROSSES, ETC.

159. St Michael's Chapel, Kallin, Grimsay.—The ruins of St Michael's Chapel occupy a very prominent position on a small plateau on the highest point of the promontory at the south-east end of Grimsay, about 500 yards south-east of the school at Kallin. It has been built in a small enclosure, the foundations of the boundary wall, overgrown with grass, being traceable all round. It is an oblong structure of stone and lime, orientated, and measuring internally 23 feet 2 inches in length by 13 feet 8 inches in breadth. The walls, which are from 2 feet 4 inches to 2 feet 6 inches thick, are reduced to a height of about 1½ feet, except the western gable, which stands 8 feet high, and a small part of the south wall, which is 3 feet in height on the inside. The positions of neither door nor windows can be detected. In the eastern end there is the foundation of some structure, but whether it is part of the altar or a grave cannot be determined.

On this church cf. *Introd.*, p. xx. According to Captain Thomas in 1871 there was then "a splayed, straight-lined window . . . nearer to the north than the south side" in what remained of the west wall. In the north wall, 9 feet high, were two windows, that to the east destroyed, that to the west being rectangular, "1¼ feet on the outside, with parallel sides (4½ feet high) for ¾ foot, then splayed to 3 feet on the inside."¹

¹ *Archæologia Scotica*, V., p. 244.

North Uist xlv. 28 June 1915.

160. Teampull na Trionaid, Carinish.—The ruin of this church, which was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, stands on the summit of a knoll on the Carinish promontory. On plan it is an oblong, measuring 21 feet 3 inches from north to south by 61½ feet from east to west within walls averaging 3 feet 8 inches thick, which still stand to a height of 17 to 20 feet, save at the south-east angle, which is breached. The interior is encumbered with graves and debris, and is covered with a dense growth of nettles. The walls are built of rubble in lime mortar, brought to courses in

the lateral walls, but the west gable, save at the uppermost courses, which resemble those of the lateral walls, is built at random; if there is any significance in this difference in masonry, the lower part of the gable may therefore be earlier than the lateral walls. The east gable is furnished with a rough, spreading ground course. The walls are pierced by a series of beam-holes, of which there are two tiers in the gable and a single tier on the sides; these are possibly wind vents.

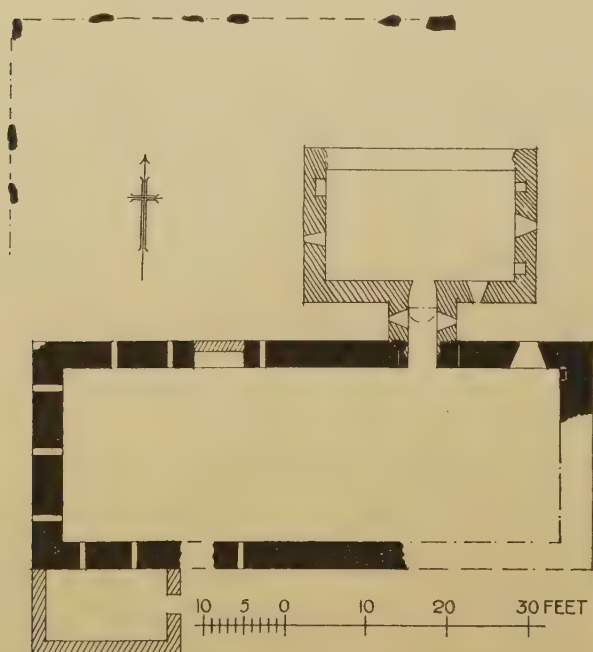


FIG. 100.—Teampull na Trionaid, Carinish (No. 160).

In the east wall an aumbry is found 10 feet above the ground; there has been a central window, apparently of considerable size; a lancet fairly complete with deeply-splayed jambs and arched head remains at the east end of the north wall, and traces of a doorway, probably secondary, are found at a gap towards the western end, while eastwards in the same wall there has been a doorway communicating by a vaulted passage with a second structure, apparently a house and not a chapel, though known as *Teampull MacVicar* (*Teampull Clann a' Phiocair*). This is subsequent to the church and is an oblong on plan, measuring internally 13½ feet from north to south by 23 feet from east to west. The walls average in thickness 2 feet 9 inches. The masonry externally re-

sembles that of the church, but internally many small flags are used, for the most part bedded flat but occasionally on edge. The gables are steeply pitched for a timber roof. The north wall is ruinous and shows no trace of a door. The west gable contains a narrow central window with an aumbry towards the north end; the east gable has a similar window flanked by two aumbries. There is no sign of an altar seating. The south wall east of the vaulted passage contains a small window. The passage lintelled at the northern end is otherwise covered with a semicircular barrel-vault. It is lit on each side by a small window. An enclosing wall can be traced on the north, returning southward to the north-west angle of the church.

The church appears to date from the 16th century on the evidence of the lancet, which resembles those at Rodil Priory, but the proportions of the structure are in keeping with a 14th-century origin. The house is evidently subsequent and possibly dates from later in the 16th century. (Figs. 104, 105.)

The structures are in a very dilapidated state. (Fig. 106.)

HISTORICAL NOTE.—On this church see *Introd.*, p. xx. In July 1389 Godfrey, son of Amie MacRuari, as "lord of Uist," confirmed a grant by his mother's aunt Christina, daughter of Allan MacRuari, to the monastery of St John the Evangelist in Inchaffray (*Insula Missarum*), Perthshire, a house of Augustinian Canons, of "the chapel of the Holy Trinity in Uist, the whole land of Carinish (*Karynche*) and four pennylands in Illeray," a grant again confirmed by Donald, Lord of the Isles, in 1410.¹ But in the Rental of the Bishopric of the Isles and Abbey of Icolmkill (c. 1561), "Cairenische" and lands in "Eillera" are listed among the Abbot's lands;² and in 1575 "Carinche" was held from the Bishop of the Isles by James Macdonald (Gruamach) of Castle Camus.³ In 1601 occurred the battle of Carinish between a raiding company of Harris Macleods and the local Macdonalds, being an episode in a series of mutual raids. The Macdonalds went "to tak a prey of goods out of

¹ *Charters of Inchaffray* (S.H.S.), Nos. cxlii-iii.

² *Coll. de Reb. Alb.*, p. 2.

³ *Ibid.*, p. 10.



FIG. 101—Cross, Kilmuir
(No. 162).

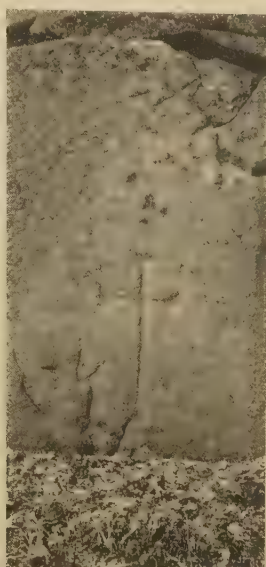


FIG. 102—Cross, Ard a Mhor-
ain, N. Uist (No. 165).

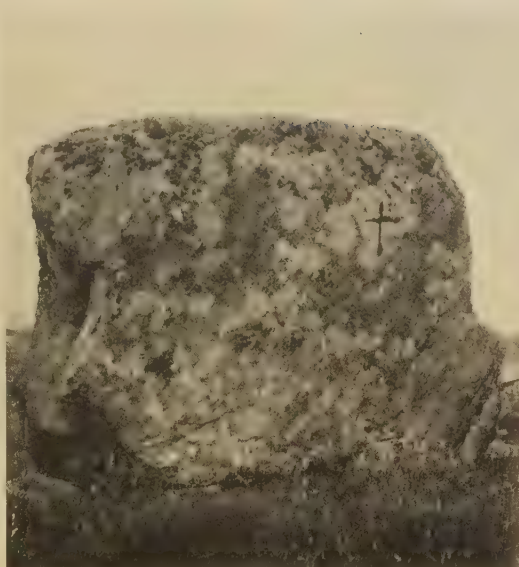


FIG. 103—Clach an t-Sagairt, N. Uist (No. 170).



FIG. 104—Teampull na Trionaid (No. 160): showing end
of Vaulted Passage.



FIG. 105—Teampull na Trionaid (No. 160): Teampull
MacVicar in front.



FIG. 106—Teampull na Trionaid (No. 160): from North-East.

the precinct of the church of Kil-trynad, wher the people had put all ther goods and cattall, as in a sanctuarie.”⁴

Captain Thomas was told that the dressed stones of windows and doors had been “pulled down to make the graves in the floor of the church.” He also cites T. S. Muir, author of *Ecclesiological Notes on Some of the Islands*, to the following effect: “It would appear that, till about the beginning of the present century, the interior of the greater church was decorated with sculptures similar to those still existing at Rodil, as I was told that one Macpherson, an octogenarian living at Cladach, Carinish, remembers having seen, when a boy, stones in the walls figured with angels, armed men, animals, etc . . .”⁵ He adds a note of information supplied by the late Dr Carmichael: “There was a spire (pinnacle) upon the east gable of Trinity Church, with the figure of a giant (fomhair) with three heads, on the top. This ‘giant with three heads’ was probably a representation of the Trinity. Some say that the ‘giant with three heads’ stood in a niche in the gable, and not on the top. There were several pieces of sculpture, both inside and outside of the church, but these being of freestone were carried away for sharpening stones. It is also said there was an altar of marble or freestone in the church, and that the sides of the doors and windows were of cut freestone, which have been taken out and carried away. There are some bits still remaining.”⁶ Dr Carmichael is also the source of the note on *Teampull MacVicar*, which runs: “The small chapel . . . is called Teampull Chlann a Phiocair, from some families of the Macvicars who took possession of it for burying therein. An old man still living, John Macvicar, Balsher, told me lately that he saw the ruin roofed and thatched with heather.”⁷ Dr Beveridge writes: “It is credibly stated that, during the sixteenth century, Donald Macvicar (known as *Am Piocair Mor*) held a large portion of North Uist.”⁸ This “Big Vicar” may have been in possession at the Reformation and seized the church lands, either building or continuing to occupy this

house. The census of 1861 shows 98 persons of the name of MacVicar in North Uist.⁹

⁹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, XI., p. 506.

North Uist xxxix. 19 July 1924.

161. Teampull Chrìosd, Baleshare.—In an enclosed graveyard, barely $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-west of the school on Baleshare, are the scanty remains of Teampull Chrìosd, where part of the western gable of stone and lime stands to a height of 6 feet over a length of from 4 to 6 feet, the wall being 2 feet 9 inches thick. The foundations of the church, oblong on plan, are traceable with difficulty, but the building seems to have been about 42 feet long and about 12 feet broad internally, possibly with a divisional wall about 18 feet from the west end. It is orientated east by north and west by south.

About 130 yards to the north-north-west is a conspicuous grassy ridge, known as Crois Mhor, while to the east is Creag Thormaigh, both supposed to be sanctuary limits.

Capt. Thomas has this note: “Mr Carmichael informs me that Christ’s Temple is also believed to have been built by the Lady Amie.” (*Archaeol. Scot.*, V., p. 235.) Cf. *Introd.*, p. xx.

North Uist xxxix. 7 September 1914.

162. Cill Mhoire (site of), Hougary.—Round the summit of a slight hillock, about 600 yards south-east of Hougary, is the kirkyard of Kilmuir, still in use, in which is probably the site of the ancient church Cill Mhoire, all traces of the building having been obliterated.

CROSSES, ETC.

Near the north-eastern corner of the graveyard is a mutilated cross used as the headstone of a grave. Both arms of the cross are broken off, but the four round hollows, 2 inches in diameter at the intersection of the arms, remain. In the centre of the cross between the arms is a round plain boss 5 inches in diameter and $\frac{5}{8}$ inch high. The fragment is now 3 feet 1 inch above ground, and measures from 13 to 15 inches across the shaft and about 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. On the back of the upper arm is a small tapering hole $\frac{7}{8}$ inch across and $\frac{7}{8}$ inch deep. (Fig. 101.)

⁴ Sir R. Gordon’s *Earldom of Sutherland*, p. 244.

⁵ *Archaeol. Scot.*, V., p. 238. ⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 226.

⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 228. ⁸ *North Uist*, p. 287.

Another cross, apparently of the same type, but without the boss, stands near the northern wall of the kirkyard. It is even more dilapidated than the first, but the hollows at the intersection of the arms are distinct. The top of the upper arm has a piece wanting in the centre of the summit, giving it a bifoliate appearance. The stone is 3 feet high, 16 inches broad and 8 inches thick.

Cross Slab.—On a recumbent slab, 5 feet 1 inch long and 1 foot 11 inches broad, is a cross potent well carved in relief, measuring 22½ inches in length. About 5½ inches from the base is an extra bar placed transversely across the shaft.

Socket Stone.—In the graveyard there is a small block of stone 14 inches in length, 12 inches in breadth and 9 inches in thickness, with a rectangular socket on the top 2½ inches by 2¼ inches and 3 inches deep, with circular drill holes at the angles.

Saddle Quern.—A very fine saddle quern partly buried in soil is used as a headstone of a grave. The cavity is 16 inches across and 4 inches deep.

Inscribed Cross.—A thin slab with inscribed Latin cross could not be found. It is noted by Beveridge in *North Uist*, p. 292.

North Uist xxxiii (unnoted). 11 September 1914.

163. St Clement's Chapel, Tighary.—At the head of a small bay on the western coast of North Uist, about 400 yards south of Manish Point, and about ½ mile north-north-west of Tighary, within a small, disused kirkyard surrounded by the remains of a stone dyke, the foundations of St Clement's Chapel are still discernible. The building has been oblong, lying almost east and west, and measuring about 14 feet 6 inches in length and about 10 feet 9 inches in breadth internally. The door has been in the western gable. Within the building is a quarter portion of a hollowed stone, possibly an old font. The deep cavity is more conical and narrow at the bottom than that of the usual knocking stone; it tapers downwards from 7 inches at top to 2 inches.

On Blaeu's map (1654) this church is *Kilchalma* and in *Orig. Paroch. Kilchalman*. These

forms suggest a dedication to Colman, who has been confused with Clement.

North Uist xxxiii. 16 August 1915.

164. Cille-pheadair Cross.—This cross was re-erected about 1830-40 on a pedestal 6½ feet high on the summit of a small hill some 600 yards west by north of Balelone. It was found in the ancient graveyard of Cille-pheadair, the site of which is said to be a grassy plateau to the south of where the cross now stands.

The cross is a free-standing cross with round hollows at the intersection of the arms, and measures 4 feet 7 inches in height above its rough base, partly built into the pedestal, and 33 inches across the arms; the shaft varies in width from 16 inches immediately below the arms to 23 inches at the base. On its present southern face between the arms, but not quite in line with their main axis, are two plain bosses 5 inches in diameter and about ½ inch in relief.

North Uist xxix. 11 September 1914.

165. Cross inscribed on Rock at Ard a Mhorain.—On the flat, vertical face of a rock washed by the waves at high water, about 200 yards west of the burial ground at Ard a Mhorain and barely 2½ miles north-north-east of Grenetote, is an incised cross potent measuring 14½ inches in length and 7½ inches across the arms. (Fig. 102.)

Holy Well.—On the shingly beach under the high-water mark, some 9 yards to the south-east of the cross, is a fine spring of fresh water bubbling up through the pebbles variously known as the "Well of the Priest," "Well of the Cross," or "Well of the Cups," the last name referring to the adjacent cup-marked rock (No. 265).

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 17 August 1914.

166. Teampull Orain, Oronsay, Vallay.—On the west side of the peninsula of Oronsay are the foundations of a rectangular building lying east and west. The walls are dry built and about 4 feet thick, while the whole structure measures 24 by 17 feet internally.

North Uist xxx.

167. Teampull Mhuir, Vallay.—Only portions of the foundations remain about three-quarters



FIG. 108—Dun Nighean Righ Lochlainn, Breinish (No. 214).

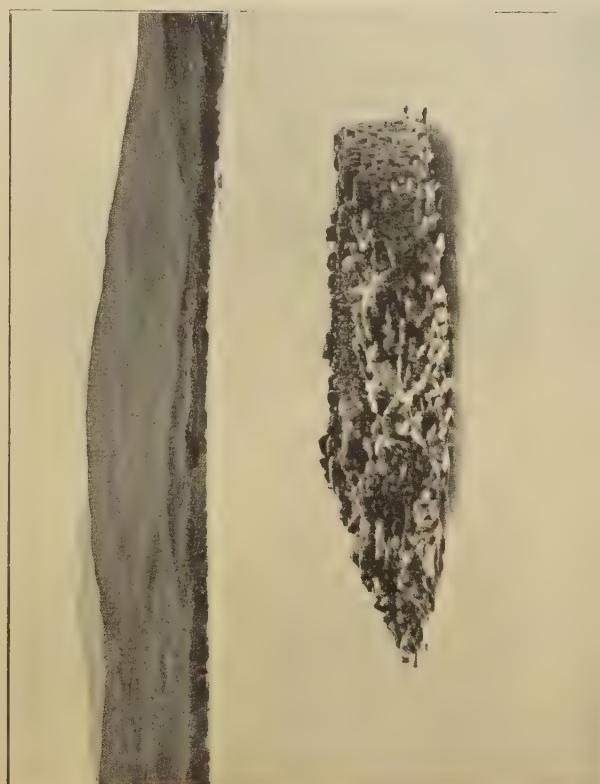


FIG. 110—Dun Nighean Righ Lochlainn, Portain (No. 199).



FIG. 107—Dun Torcuill (No. 172).

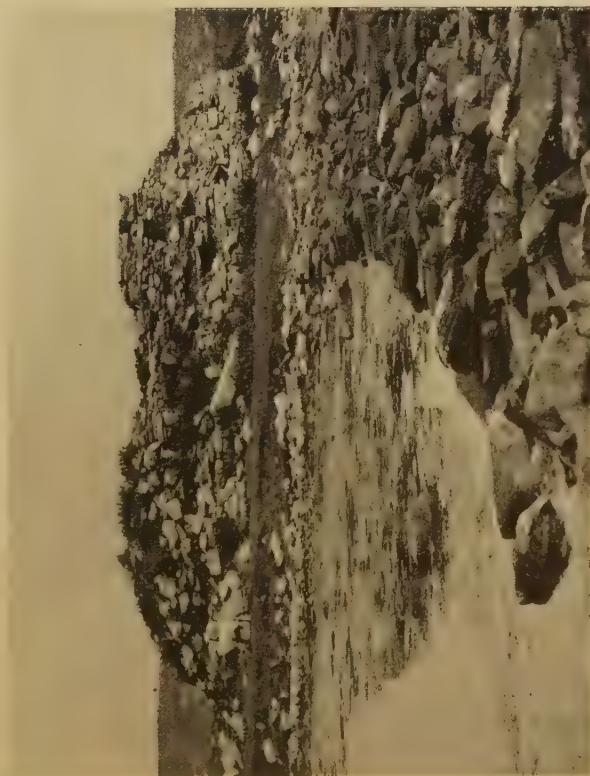


FIG. 109 —Dun an Sticer (No. 171).

of a mile east by north of Vallay House. These foundations are confined to what seems to have been a chancel, about 9 or 10 feet square. The walling is 3 feet thick. A depression in the ground probably indicates the lines of a nave some 3 feet wider than the chancel.

According to Martin, Vallay had "three chapels, one dedicated to St Ulton, and another to the Virgin Mary." The dedication of the third is not specified. He continues: "There are two crosses of stone, each of them about 7 feet high, and a foot and a half broad." Muir (1866) gives a drawing of one cross 5 feet 4 inches high and a broken portion of another.¹ The former is not now to be found. The other may be identified with the headstone mentioned below.

CROSS SLAB.—This slab with two simple Latin crosses incised on one face stands against the wall of a modern burial enclosure in the graveyard at Teampull Mhuir. Up till 1904 it formed the lintel of the doorway of this tomb. It measures 4 feet 2 inches in length, 1 foot 10 inches in breadth, and 4½ inches in thickness, being roughly rectangular in shape. The crosses are cut near the end of the slab, the upper arm in each case being towards the top and bottom of the stone. The smaller cross, which is at the top end of the slab as it stands at present, is slightly towards the sinister side of the stone and measures 8 inches in length and 4 inches in breadth, while the larger cross at the opposite end and cut near the centre of the stone is 9 inches long and 7 inches broad.

STONE CROSS (FRAGMENT).—In the same graveyard and used as the head-stone of a grave is the fragment of a cross, 2 feet 4 inches long and 9 inches broad, only one arm and the greater part of the shaft remaining. The arm is 12½ inches broad and projects 4 inches from the shaft, and at the angles where they intersect is a semicircular hollow 2½ inches in diameter not carried through the stone. This is surrounded by a hollow moulding, which probably has been carried round the edge of the cross.

¹ *Ecclesiological Notes*, p. 47.

North Uist xxx. 28 July 1914.

168. Cross-marked Slab and Cup-marked Rock, Cladh Manach, Boreray.—In an ancient

burying ground on the summit of a small hill at A'Yeoie, near the south-east corner of the island of Boreray, is a small, rough slab almost entirely buried, on which a simple Latin cross, measuring 7½ inches in length and 3½ inches across the arms, is incised.

About 50 yards to the west, on a small rocky outcrop, is an oval hollow measuring about 17 inches in length and 11 inches in width at the lip, and about 6 inches in depth at the deepest part, which is in the western half.

A few yards to the north-west of this hollow is another small outcrop of rock just appearing above ground, on which four cup-marks are cut; the largest is about 5½ inches in diameter and ¾ inches deep and the smallest 3 inches in diameter and ⅝ inch deep.

North Uist xxvi (unnoted). 11 August 1915.

169. Sanctuary Stone, Cnoc Mhic Eoghainn.—On the south side of the road from Lochmaddy to Sollas, shortly before the eighth milestone is reached, about 120 yards west of the summit of Cnoc Mhic Eoghainn, is a standing stone 3 feet 3 inches in height, 2 feet in breadth and 1 foot 2 inches in thickness. The story goes that anyone fleeing from an enemy was safe if he could reach this stone.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 17 August 1914.

170. Cross incised on Boulder, Clach an t-Sagairt, Dun Rosail.—About 100 yards north of Dun Rosail (No. 325) is a large block of stone set on edge facing the south-east and measuring 8 feet in height, 11 feet in breadth and 4½ feet in thickness at its base, with a Latin cross incised on it towards the sinister top corner of its face. The cross measures 1 foot 3 inches in length and 11½ inches across the arms. For about 3 inches at the lower part of the shaft it narrows from a width of 2½ inches to about 1 inch. This stone is also known as Clach na h'Ulaidh and Crois Aona'ain. (Fig. 103.)

North Uist xxxi. 12 August 1914.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(BROCHS.)

171. Dun an Sticer, Loch an Sticer, Port nan Long.—Barely ½ mile south-south-east of Port nan Long is a shallow, tidal loch with

the remains of a broch occupying an islet near its centre. Access to the broch is obtained by a well-built causeway 9 feet in width, which extends from the northern shore of the loch over intervening rocks to an island about the centre of the western arm of the loch. From this island, which is also connected with a promontory on the south shore by a short narrow causeway formed of massive blocks of stone, a causeway 9 feet broad and 180 feet long is carried in a north-easterly direction with a

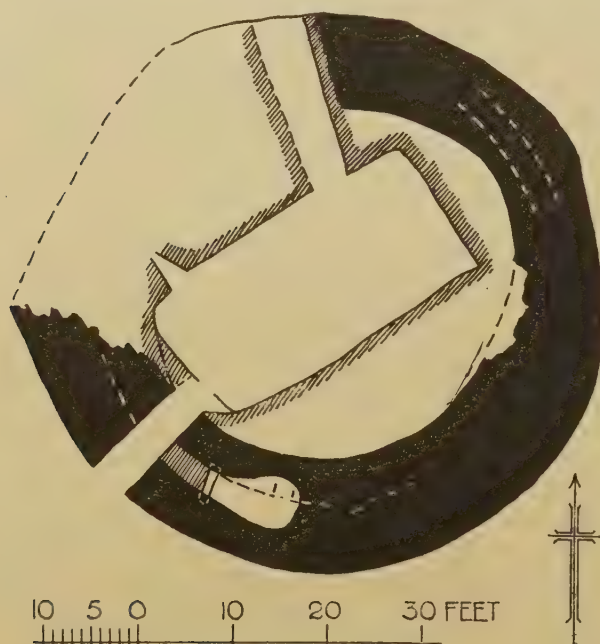


FIG. III.—Dun an Sticer (No. 171).

gentle curve to the north to the islet occupied by the fort, terminating 24 feet from the building. (Fig. 109.)

The broch is hardly a true circle on plan, varying from 60 to 61 feet in diameter all over, but it has been much destroyed to provide material for a later structure erected in the interior, and for building the stone dyke on the side of the road, some 300 yards to the west. The interior area of the broch is for the greater part occupied by the later building, but apparently it must have measured about 40 feet in diameter internally, the wall varying from about 9 feet to 12 feet in thickness. The best preserved portion of the wall is to the east, where, built with a slight batter, it rises 8 feet above some recent enclosures built at its base;

to the south the outer face of the main wall reaches a height of about 5 feet, and the inner wall of a gallery rises about 6 feet higher; on the north-west, though the outline can be traced, the wall is completely broken down. Within the wall on the south-western arc at the floor level is an oval vaulted chamber measuring 8 feet in length and 4 feet 9 inches in breadth on the surface of the debris, which covers the floor to within 3 feet 6 inches of the roof. Low down in the western end of this chamber there is a lintelled opening resting on well-built jambs, 1 foot 6 inches apart, apparently the entrance, though now blocked up with rubbish. The roof of the oval chamber forms the floor of an upper gallery within the wall, which is traceable for more than half the circumference of the building and is best preserved on the east, where it shows a width of 2 feet 6 inches, with the outer wall 3 feet 9 inches thick and the inner wall 2 feet 9 inches thick. The inner wall of the gallery towards the south-west is pierced by a window looking into the interior of the broch and measuring 2 feet 3 inches in width. An entrance passage runs out towards the north and measures 2 feet 7 inches in width, apparently having a sill raised above the outside level by about 1 foot 3 inches. Access from the gallery to the later building in the centre of the broch has been by this passage.

The late structure built within the broch consists of a rectangular chamber with all the corners slightly rounded except that to the east, which is square. From roughly east to west it measures 33 feet 3 inches and from north to south 16 feet 3 inches, the wall on the south side measuring 3 feet 7 inches in thickness and on the north side from 5 feet to 8 feet. Near the western end of the north side is a window, widely splayed towards the inside, 7 inches wide at the outside and 3 feet inside. The door, which is near the east end of this wall, is 3 feet 6 inches wide. The wall of the broch at this part seems to have been purposely removed, as a returning wall is built across it to the west of the window. In the west wall at the south-west corner is another entrance, 2 ft 7 inches wide, and beside it is a large lintel, 7 feet long, 2 feet broad, and 1 foot 1 inch thick.

North Uist xxxi. 13 August 1914.

172. Dun Torcuill.—On an island about 35

yards south-east of a promontory on the west side of Loch an Duin, some $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles north-west of Lochmaddy, is Dun Torcuill, which though much dilapidated is still the best example of a broch in North Uist. The island is connected with the shore by a broad causeway, never less than 6 feet in width, which, springing from a mass of rock at the end of the promontory, extends east and south in a fine curve, advantage being taken of a rock which rises above the loch about midway in its course. (Fig. 107.)

The broch, built of good drystone masonry, occupies the south-east and larger portion of the island. The walls have a slight inward batter and reach to a height of 9 feet on the north-

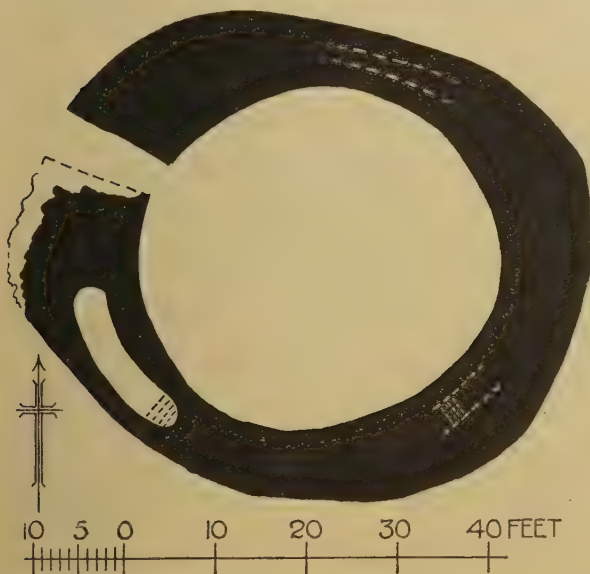


FIG. 112.—Dun Torcuill (No. 172).

west, and about $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet on the south. They vary considerably in thickness from $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the north and south-west to 10 feet at the east and $12\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the west-north-west, where an entrance passage, now much broken down and obscured by fallen debris, shows a width of $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet at its internal extremity. The interior of the broch, which is roughly circular with a diameter of 38 feet, is filled to a depth of about 4 feet with stones obscuring all entrances to internal structures. On the northern arc access to a portion of a ground-level gallery, of which some 15 feet is fairly clear of debris, is now gained only through a hole in the roof. This gallery is set almost midway in the thickness of the wall and is approximately $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide

at the floor and 2 feet wide at the roof, which apparently formed the floor of an upper gallery, of which a short section of the inner wall remains to a height of about 4 feet. In the south-east segment of the wall there has been a stair, 2 feet 8 inches wide, with its outer wall showing a thickness of 4 feet 3 inches, and the inner wall 2 feet 4 inches. In the south-west segment there has been an oval-shaped chamber 18 feet long, 3 feet wide and 4 feet 10 inches in height.

Immediately adjoining the main construction, and occupying the north-western part of the island, are three annexes of irregular shape and apparently of later construction. The walls of these annexes are $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, but they are clearly built of re-used stones and the character of the masonry is different from that of the broch construction. That they had nothing to do with the main construction is shown by the fact that an annexe wall starts from the broch entrance, which it completely closes. There are traces of even earlier foundations within the annexes. The structures suggest in their layout that, at the time they were built, the broch was already ruinous and, therefore, deserted.

North Uist xxxi. 10 August 1914.

(DUNS.)

173. Dun, Loch Hunder.—On an island in a small bay on the eastern shore of Loch Hunder, near its south-eastern corner, is a dun of uncommon type, and specially interesting from the network of causeways connected with it. The dun occupies nearly the whole surface of an islet, some 35 yards from the northern and eastern shores of the bay, while about 50 yards to the south-west is a larger island, partially defended on the landward side, which has formed an annexe to the chief structure. Access to the dun is obtained by a causeway, which, making a considerable bend towards the south, extends from a slight promontory on the east shore of the loch to the south-eastern part of the building. When visited in an exceptionally dry summer, the causeway stood about 2 feet above the water; it measures 40 yards in length, and some 3 feet in breadth on the top at the best preserved part, though in other places it is nearly 7 feet wide. In two places there are gaps in the causeway from 2 to 3 feet wide.

A second causeway connects the dun with the annexe on the island to the south-west. Commencing on the western side of the dun it extends in a straight line about 20 yards into the loch, then completes a western semi-circular curve in a length of about 15 yards, after which it abruptly turns and goes directly south to the northern end of the annexe, which is reached about 18 yards further on. This causeway is generally about 1 foot lower than the first causeway.

There is yet another causeway joining the southern end of the annexe with the eastern shore of the loch. It stands about 1 foot above the water, and makes a sharp change of direction in its course. For some 25 yards it runs out from the shore in a westerly direction, its width being about 4 feet 6 inches on the summit, then it makes a sharp angle to the north-west joining the island annexe after a length of some 22 yards; the latter portion is about 8 feet in width in places. (Fig. 115.)

The dun is in a better state of preservation than the majority of these structures in the islands, the wall standing to an average height of 5 and 6 feet. Though roughly oval on plan, measuring some 40 feet 8 inches over the top of the walls from north-west to south-west, and some 34 feet 7 inches from north-west to south-east, the wall does not follow a regular curve, but for short distances is almost straight, especially on the north, and opposite the causeway bulges out slightly. It measures 4 feet 10 inches in thickness at its present summit on the south-west, and 5 feet 2 inches on the north. The entrance is quite obliterated, but seems to have been placed a few feet north of the island end of the causeway. Immediately to the south-west of this place the wall has a thickness of some 10 feet, apparently to make room for an oval chamber in the thickness of the wall, the dimensions of which cannot be ascertained. On the northern arc there are doubtful indications of an oval chamber or gallery, about 2 feet wide, within the wall in the shape of a coved western end. The interior of the building is full of stone to an apparent depth of about 5 feet.

The island annexe, which rises to a maximum height of some 12 feet above the water, measures about 168 feet from north-north-east to south-south-west and some 70 feet across. From the causeway at its northern end to within 48 feet

of the causeway on the south its landward or eastern flank has been protected by a line of slabs, about 2 feet in height, set on edge a few feet from the edge of the island. At the southern end of this flank the island is bounded by a sloping rock which evidently has been considered a sufficient defence in itself. There are also the remains of a stone wall built across the inner end of the causeway.

In the face of the bank of the loch opposite the causeway, some 28 feet from and 10 feet higher than the shore, is a rectangular, excavated and stone-walled enclosure, measuring some 17 feet long and 15 feet 6 inches broad, the wall in the south-east corner showing a height on the inner face of about 3 feet.

North Uist xl. 3 August 1915.

174. Dun, Loch nan Gealag.—About 30 yards from the extremity of a small promontory on the eastern shore of Loch nan Gealag, a lochan lying about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles east-south-east of Knock-Cuilen, is a fortified islet, some 30 feet in length from north-east to south-west, and rather less in breadth. Along the southern margin of the islet it is defended by a stone wall rising about 3 feet in height. A causeway extends some 30 yards from a long narrow promontory on the east shore of the loch to a mass of stone, lying about 30 feet west of the islet, beyond which there is a considerable gap before a small pier about 10 feet in length is reached.

North Uist xl (unnoted).

175. Dun na Dise, Baleshare Ford, Claddach Baleshare.—At the northern end of Eilean nan Carnan, a tidal island in the Baleshare Ford, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south-west of Claddach Baleshare, is a flat-topped, grass-covered rock, rising abruptly some 15 feet above the strand, and separated from the larger islet at half tide. It is occupied by the remains of Dun na Dise, the wall of which has for the greater part either been removed or undermined and dislodged by the tides. On the southern arc facing the larger islet, where the natural escarpment is of less height, and not subjected so much to the action of the tides, two courses of large blocks of stone remain in position forming a regular curve. This wall is 9 feet in thickness, and towards the south-south-west shows indications

of an entrance about 3 feet 9 inches wide. The plat inside the southern arc of the wall is irregularly oval on plan and measures some 63 feet from north-east to south-west and some 45 feet across. There are indications of buildings in the interior.

Some 700 yards to the south-east of this site on Eilean Scalaster, the northern extremity of Eilean Mor, are the foundations of what seems to have been a circular building with an overall diameter of some 40 feet; there are rectangular foundations in the interior, probably of late date.

On several of the tidal islands in the vicinity there are grass-covered foundations of stone structures and a few cairns, but none of them without excavation could be assigned to prehistoric times.

North Uist xxxix. 9 August 1915.

176. Duns (four), Loch Mor, Baleshare.—In Loch Mor, the largest loch in Baleshare, lying near the centre of the northern half of the island, are the slight remains of four duns, practically all the stones, as in the case of the other four forts in the island, having been removed for building purposes.

(1) The first dun, which is the largest and shows the most remains, occupies an island near the north end of the loch about 20 yards from the eastern shore. The island, the greater part of which, especially towards the west, is under cultivation, measures about 38 yards in length from east to west, and 30 yards in breadth, and is surrounded by a modern wall, outside which is a large quantity of stones, the remains of an earlier building; about 8 yards from the eastern end of the islet is a wide curved bank of tumbled stones, about 12 feet wide and 3 feet high, probably the ruins of the eastern section of the wall of the dun. From the outside of the modern wall at the eastern end of the island about 8 yards without the ruined wall of the fort, a causeway 99 feet long, 5 feet wide, and 2 feet high, now standing high and dry, is carried east by south to a narrow promontory jutting out into the loch from its eastern side.

(2) The second dun occupies an islet about 100 yards south-east of the last and is reached by a short causeway, 30 feet long and 5 feet broad, which extends in a southerly direction from

the south side of the promontory above mentioned. The stone work of this dun has almost entirely been removed; only a row of large, irregular blocks of stone, enclosing a space about 56 feet in length from north-east to south-west and 36 feet in breadth with a slight mound in the centre, remain. Between the wall and the edge of the island is a space about 8 feet broad.

(3) About 50 feet from the eastern edge of the loch towards the southern end is the site of the third dun, which had occupied a small island, possibly artificial, measuring about 40 feet across and now only rising about 2 feet above the water. It is connected with the shore by a causeway about 5 feet broad.

(4) Of the last fort, which may also have been built on an artificial island, hardly anything remains but the causeway, the top of which appears above water extending as the northern arc of a curve from a peninsula on the western shore of the loch over a distance of about 130 feet with a width of 5 feet till it reaches the dun.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 7 September 1914.

177. Dun, Loch nan Struban, Clachan.—In the southern end of Loch nan Struban, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north-west of Clachan-a-luib, are the remains of a dun, which occupy the entire area of a small island. The ruins appear as a flat-topped mound measuring some 38 feet from east to west, and 33 feet from north to south, and rising about 6 feet above the water. The higher part of the mound is covered with vegetation, but round the edge of the islet is a mass of fallen stones covering a space about 6 feet in width. On the west a portion of the wall shows a thickness of 4 feet.

The dun is connected with the south shore of the loch by a submerged causeway about 35 yards long.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 7 September 1914.

178. Dun, South Cleittraval.—About 400 yards south-east of the summit of South Cleittraval, at an elevation of about 400 feet above sea-level, are the ruins of a circular dun measuring 27 feet in diameter internally, with the wall showing a thickness of 8 feet on the west. The inner face of the wall is traceable for a considerable part of the circumference, one or two courses of

building remaining *in situ* in places. Towards the west-south-west is an oval chamber, 7 feet in length and 4 feet 6 inches at its greatest width, built transversely in the thickness of the wall. It is impossible to say if this was the entrance, as the outer part of the wall is here broken, and it is built up on the inside.

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 9 September 1914.

179. Dun Grogary, Loch Grogary, Tighary.—Loch Grogary, which lies to the south-west of the township of Tighary, like the other lochs in the neighbourhood has been partially drained, the level of the water, to judge from the fragments of the causeway at Dun Grogary which lie on dry ground, having been reduced several feet. The site of Dun Grogary is a mound in a marsh, near the western side of the loch at the part where it contracts to its narrowest, some 600 yards north-west of the southern end. Nearly all the building has been removed, but there remains a circular mound of stone and earth, hollow on the summit, some 53 feet in diameter externally, and 6 feet high at most, surrounded by traces of an outer wall built at a distance varying from 13 feet on the east to 36 feet on the north-west from the inner defence. The position and length of the causeway are indicated by a line of displaced blocks of stone. It has run out from the dun towards the west-north-west, and has been about 87 feet long.

North Uist xxxiii. 6 August 1915.

180. Dun Olavat, Eilean Domhnuill an spionnaidh, Loch Olavat, Griminish.—The ruins of Dun Olavat occupy an islet, Eilean Domhnuill an spionnaidh ("island of Donald of strength"), lying barely 40 yards from the southern shore of Loch Olavat, and rising about 5 feet above the water's level. The island has been defended by a stone wall, now entirely broken down, and spread over a width of 12 feet, built on the water's edge. The structure is almost circular and measures about 48 feet in diameter externally. It is connected with the southern shore of the loch by a causeway submerged for the greater part of its length and appearing above water at both ends. It shows a slight curve in its course and measures 130 feet in length and from 4 to 4½ feet in breadth, the

landward end being carried inland about 40 feet from the present edge of the water.

The interior of the dun is occupied by the ruins of two later buildings, the walls of which rest on kitchen midden refuse.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 30 July 1914.

181. Dun (Dun'ic Raonuill), Loch nan Clachan.—Near the centre of the western half of Loch nan Clachan, a tidal loch some 200 yards south-east of Loch na Gearrachun, is a low, almost circular islet, measuring about 30 yards from north to south, and 27 yards from east to west, and rising 3 feet above the water, covered by loose stones, the ruins of Dun'ic Raonuill ("the fort of Ranald's son"). The wall of the structure has tumbled into the water, obliterating all traces of building. The entrance is to the north and opens out on to a causeway about 50 yards long and about 4 feet wide, submerged for the greater part but appearing above water towards the landward end. About 20 yards from the island there is a gap of about 6 feet in the causeway.

On the moor to the north of the loch opposite the dun there is a large curvilinear enclosure 140 yards in length from east to west and 120 feet broad at the widest part, surrounded by a turf wall, the ends of which abut on the edge of the loch. There are two smaller enclosures within and without the wall, but these erections, as well as a turf dyke which extends north to Loch na Gearrachun, are probably of late date.

North Uist xxx. 30 July 1914.

182. Dun, Oban Skibinish.—On a rocky tidal islet lying about 50 yards from the shore at Oban Skibinish, nearly ¾ mile east of Grenetote, are the scanty remains of a defensive structure. The islet, which rises barely 3 feet above high tides, measures some 60 feet from east to west and 40 feet from north to south, and is connected with the shore by a curved causeway which is submerged at each rise of the tide. The remains of a stone wall are seen on the south and west sides, in one place showing a height of 3 feet formed by two courses of building. A gap opposite the causeway, probably the doorway, measures 1 foot 6 inches in width and 2 feet 4 inches in height, across which lies a slab, possibly a dislodged lintel.

On an islet to the south-east, which bears traces of occupation at a late date, there is an erect slab bearing on its weathered upper end three cup-like hollows, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, which may be natural.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 20 August 1915.

183. Dun na Mairbhe, Trumisgarry.—The remains of Dun na Mairbhe occupy the summit of a rocky tidal islet only surrounded by water at high tide, on the east side of Ahmore Strand, about 200 yards south-west of Trumisgarry farm. On the west the rock is precipitous, but towards the east it tails away in a declivity, and access to the summit is obtained by a gradual slope from the south-east. The fort has almost entirely been removed, only the outline remaining in the shape of a setting of large blocks of stone, the outer foundation course, which is traceable almost round the entire circumference. The dun has been circular with an external diameter of about 61 feet. On a ledge to the south-west at the base of the rock, 7 feet above high water and 20 feet below the summit, is a semicircular enclosure measuring 50 feet from north-west to south-east and 35 feet from north-east to south-west, which is reached from the summit by a rough track slanting down the steep scarp.

North Uist xxxi. 12 August 1914.

184. Dun, Rudh'an Duin, Vallay.—On a low rocky promontory, Rudh'an Duin, on the south-eastern shore of the island of Vallay, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east-north-east of Vallay House and some 200 yards south of the burying ground at Teampull Mhuir (No. 167), are the remains of an almost circular dun, the internal diameter of which measures 45 feet from north to south and 43 feet from east to west, what remains of the inner face of the wall reaching a height of barely 3 feet. Towards the south-east the wall has been totally obliterated, and during very high spring tides the water washes into the interior. The outer face of the wall is traceable only in parts and shows this structure to have a width varying from 18 feet on the north to 9 feet on the east. Outside the dun to the east, on the beach, is a tumbled wall formed of blocks of considerable size, the outer face, which is traceable in parts, being 17 feet

distant from the inner face of the wall of the dun at the south-east. A well-built entrance, 17 feet 8 inches in length and about 4 feet 6 inches wide, pierces the wall on the west side. Several long slabs lying in the immediate vicinity are probably the lintel stones of the passage. Along the centre of the floor of the entrance passage is a drain which, curving to the south after entering the inner court of the dun, is continued for a distance of about 15 feet, a few of the cover stones being still in position at its inner extremity.

This dun was excavated by Mr. Erskine Beveridge, the proprietor of Vallay, when there were found many fragments of hand-made pottery, some ornamented, including the handle of a vessel, 4 inches long by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch thick, and part of a small crucible; a thin fragment of bronze about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches square pierced by five small holes; the fragments including part of the hilt with cross-guard of a much corroded iron sword, the mould of which was noted in portions of its wooden scabbard; a piece of bone, with cut marks; three small portions of cetacean bone, and a bit of pumice. Kitchen midden refuse in the shape of ashes, bones and limpet and periwinkle shells were found in various places, chiefly about the entrance passage, but in no great quantity. A few hammer stones, a perforated ball with flattened sides, 2 inches in diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick, and a thin piece of schist shaped like the letter T, measuring $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches across each extremity, were also recovered. A small nodule of flint was found in the dun and a small flake outside immediately to the west.

North Uist xxx. 28 July 1914.

185. Dun, Loch a Gheadais, Eaval.—Loch a Gheadais lies at the south-eastern base of Eaval, close to the south-east corner of North Uist, in one of the most remote, wild and picturesque corners of the island. Some 40 yards south of the extremity of a peninsula on the east side of the loch is an irregular islet measuring about 80 feet from north to south, some 56 feet across the southern and broader end, and rising on the south about 14 feet above the loch. It is almost surrounded by a strong stone wall, built on the water's edge and following the irregularities in the outline of the islet; at the

south-west the wall is discontinued as the rock rises sharply out of the loch to a height of about 9 feet at this part. The wall still shows a general height of some 4 feet, but at places on the west and at the north reaches a height of 6 feet. At the latter part it is 5 feet 9 inches thick, but on the flanks it is much narrower, as at the mid-west where it is little more than 1 foot broad at the top. Access to the dun is obtained over a causeway that is submerged for a considerable part of its length, some portions being more than 1 foot under water. It is about 5 feet broad at the top, and follows a tortuous course. For the first two-thirds of its length it makes a slight double curve, after which it curves rather sharply towards the south-west. (Fig. 116.)

The entrance through the wall of the dun seems to have been placed about 6 feet east of the island end of the causeway, as, although it is indistinguishable, there is a considerable quantity of fallen stones inside and outside the wall at this part, and there is no other opening through the wall, which is fairly well preserved for some distance on both sides of the causeway. In a hollow in the interior some 17 feet from the northern end and about 10 feet from the western wall there is a ruined circular cell, about 5 feet in diameter internally, with a drystone wall about 2 feet thick, which seems to have been of beehive shape; impinging on it to the south is a mass of stone, possibly the remains of a second structure of the same character. Near mid-east the wall of the fort makes a sharp outward and returning curve, and though no building can be detected, a hollow on the top may indicate a small chamber within, or cutting into, the wall.

North Uist xl. 14 August 1915.

186. Dun Ban, Loch nan Garbh Chlachan (Loch Hacklett), Knock-cuien.—In Loch nan Garbh Chlachan, or Loch Hacklett as it is locally called, which lies about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east of Knock-cuien, is an islet, some 25 yards from the northern shore of the loch, occupied by the ruins of Dun Ban. Though connected with the shore by a causeway with the curve to the east, part of it is so deeply submerged that the dun is dangerous of access even in the driest summer. "Around the edge of this island are still to be seen the almost continuous remains

of a boundary wall about 3 feet thick, with a present height of nearly 6 feet on the west, and also showing elsewhere in several courses. The whole enclosure is 60 feet across, and within its north end stand the ruins of an erection 27 feet in diameter when measured over its 3-foot wall, thus containing a circular interior of about 20 feet. This building has had its access from the north, where, almost opposite the causeway, the wall thickens to 54 inches and is pierced by an entrance passage distinctly traceable as 21 inches wide, and evidently once roofed with slabs at the level shown by its very regular top, a pair of these covering-stones still remaining towards its inner end. Immediately within the entrance is some appearance of a coved recess close to its west side; and a drain seems to have led from the interior area, emerging at a point about a yard west of the outer doorway."¹

¹ Beveridge's *North Uist*, p. 176.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 13 August 1915.

187. Dun Caragarry, Buaile Caragarry, Loch Eport.—Overlooking the mouth of Loch Eport, some 400 yards north-west of the ruined shielings known as Buaile Caragarry, at an elevation of about 300 feet above sea-level, on the rocky south-eastern slope of South Lee, is the defensive site, Dun Caragarry, occupying the summit of a detached, narrow ridge running down the hill towards the east-south-east, which is only reached after a stiff climb. The northern flank is protected by a gully bordered with precipitous rocks, and the other side is almost inaccessible owing to the steepness of the slope, which is broken up by outcrops of rock. The western and higher end is defended by a huge block of rock over 12 feet in height, which has fallen from the cliff above, and access to the dun has been obtained along the sloping ridge at the eastern end. Short sections of drystone building fill up the gaps between the rocks on the flanks, and on either side of the boulder at the western extremity, and there have probably been double walls at the eastern end. Most of the building has collapsed, but on the northern side a portion remains in position for 13 feet in length, and 6 feet in height at the centre. The area enclosed is of small extent, measuring some 40 feet in length, and 35 feet

in breadth. Near the centre of the fort is a beehive cell of drystone building wanting only the roofing slabs. It is an irregular oval, measuring internally some 7 feet in length and 4 feet in breadth, and showing a height of 4 feet 6 inches above the fallen stones on the floor. The wall is from 2 to 3 feet thick, and the entrance on the west, which still shows the lintel in position, is 4 feet 2 inches high and 1 foot 3 inches wide at the narrowest part. There are several rock shelters without the dun, the most prominent being near the eastern end of the northern flank. This cavity under a huge slab of rock measures 11 feet long, 5 feet 9 inches broad, and 2 feet 4 inches high, and the western end of the opening is filled in with rough building. A quantity of limpet and whelk shells, and a few bones, are seen under the shelving eastern side of the large rock at the western end of the dun.

Some 20 to 30 yards down the steep southern slope of the ridge below the dun there have been some stone walled enclosures, possibly for stock; but these are in a very dilapidated condition.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 3 August 1915.

188. Dun, Ruadh an Duin, Eaval.—The northern extremity of a tidal islet, lying some 30 yards from the shore at Ruadh an Duin, a promontory at the south-western base of Beinn na h-Aire, the southern peak of the Eaval range, though of small dimensions seems to be the site of the dun from which the promontory takes its name. The site is a conical mass of rock which is surrounded with the remains of a very rude stone wall, built on the high-water mark, of which the only portion remaining in position is on the eastern side, where two rough courses of the outer face still survive. Over all the dun measures some 33 feet from north-west to south-east, and 24 feet from north-east to south-west.

North Uist xlv (unnoted). 14 August 1915.

189. Dun, Loch na Caiginn, Portain.—Some 3 miles north-east of Lochmaddy, on the Portain peninsula, is Loch na Caiginn, separated by a narrow strip of land from the inner end of Loch Portain. About 33 yards from the extremity of a promontory on the west side of

the loch is a small island, barely 50 yards in length from north-west to south-east and about 40 yards in breadth, rising only a few feet above the present level of the loch. The islet is encircled by the remains of a stone wall built some 6 or 8 feet from the water's edge and still attaining a height of about 3 feet in places. Towards the western or landward side of the island are the ruins of a circular dun measuring 45 feet in diameter externally, some 15 feet intervening between it and the outer rampart. The building is much dilapidated, but the outer face is traceable all round and shows a height



FIG. 113.—Dun, Loch na Caiginn, Portain (No. 189).

of three feet 6 inches towards the east, where it is best preserved. The interior is filled with fallen stones obliterating the inner face of the wall, so that its thickness cannot at present be determined. Within the north-west quadrant of the interior, at a distance of 12 feet 6 inches from the outside of the wall of the dun, is a circular building measuring 5 feet in diameter across the top of the fallen stones with which it is almost filled. This building is of the beehive type, the corbelling of the walls being clearly defined. Adjoining it to the south a section of the curved wall of a large chamber is noticeable. The entrance to the dun is from the north-west, slightly to the west of the circular chamber, and measures 2 feet 4 inches in breadth.

Access to the fort is attained from the nearest point of land by a well preserved causeway with

a slight double curve, like a flattened out S, in its course, which measures 99 feet in length and about 5 feet in breadth. It stands 2 feet above the present level of the water, and several large protruding stones may have been so placed to impede the approach of an enemy. The island end of the causeway is defended by two horn-like walls of stone running out into the loch. These, as in the similar case of Dun Buidhe, Benbecula (No. 349), appear to be late constructions, intended to keep cattle from straying on to the island. The walls have their concave side towards the shore and extend into deep water at either end.

North Uist xxxii. 22 July 1914.

190. Promontory Fort, Caisteal Odair.—At the extreme north-western corner of North Uist is an elevated, rocky promontory, Caisteal Odair, bounded on the south-west by a gully, Geo a Chaisteil, the walls of which rise 50 feet sheer from the water, and by a smaller gully on the north-east. The promontory is bounded by lofty precipices, except on the south-east or landward side, where it has been defended by a stone rampart commencing on the edge of the cliff to the south-west and curving round towards the north-east about 25 feet higher than the neck connecting it with the land. The rampart measures about 120 yards in length, and what remains shows a width of some 9 feet and a height of $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet at most; towards the north-eastern end it entirely disappears after taking a sharp turn to the north, the grassy slope between it and the cliff at this part being very steep. Possibly it may have been made with a bifurcation at this extremity.

Some 33 yards from the south-western end is the entrance, which, in its course through the wall, curves slightly towards the east and measures 15 feet in length, 5 feet 2 inches wide at the outer end and 4 feet 9 inches at the inner end. The foundation stones of the wall on both sides of the passage are still in position, and for 20 yards to the east of the entrance the outer foundation course of the wall is traceable. The walls on both sides of the entrance passage run into the outer line of the rampart in a fine, regular curve. A slab of stone 4 feet 8 inches in length lies at the mouth of the passage, and immediately to the east of its inner end are two erect slabs and a large

boulder, the largest of the erect stones reaching a height of 4 feet 3 inches above ground.

Some 36 feet east of the gateway, inside the rampart, is a much dilapidated hut circle 9 feet in diameter, and 33 feet further on is a mass of tumbled stones, probably the remains of other hut circles, covering a space 55 feet in length and extending about 14 feet from the inside of the rampart. Connecting the upper edge of the hut circle with the tumbled stones at a distance of 18 feet up the hill from the outer rampart are the remains of a stone wall.

On the highest point of the promontory, which rises about 25 feet higher than the wall, is a small cairn of stones 15 feet in diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height.

At the foot of the grassy slope outside the rampart of the fort and some 20 yards distant is a crescentic hollow excavated in the hillside with a slight mound in front of it, forming an oval enclosure 28 feet in length and 10 feet in breadth.

North Uist xxix. 29 July 1914.

191. Dun a'Ghallain, Loch an Eilean, Griminish.—On the most westerly of the two islets in Loch an Eilean, a small reedy loch at Griminish near the north-western corner of North Uist, are the remains of Dun a'Ghallain, the wall of which is built on the water's edge. The outer face of the rampart is nowhere visible, but after excavation the inner face shows an irregularly shaped, polygonal structure measuring from 36 feet to 44 feet across internally, with five or six sides, the walls reaching a height of about 2 feet 6 inches and showing a width of perhaps 10 feet. The floor of the dun is about 6 feet above the surface of the loch, and seems to have been paved for the greater part. The entrance is in the north-east corner and measures some 20 feet in length and varies in breadth from 2 feet 6 inches at the outside to 2 feet at the inside. For about 10 feet from the outside it runs in a southerly direction, then bends sharply to the west. This passage has been paved. A drain from the interior passes through the foundations of the northern wall.

The island is surrounded for a considerable width by a thick matted growth of water-plants and it is impossible to say whether there

is a causeway joining it with the northern shore of the loch 70 yards distant.

The relics found in the dun include an iron dagger with a hole near the end of the tang, a curved knife and several lozenge-shaped rivet heads of Viking type also of iron, portions of the vertebrae of the whale, half of a large quern, animal bones, unornamented hand-made shards, and a single piece of flint.¹

¹ Beveridge's *N. Uist*, p. 197.

North Uist xxx. 29 July 1914.

192. Dun, Eilean a'Ghallain, Loch an Eilean, Griminish.—Some 70 yards to the south-east of Dun a'Ghallain (No. 191) is another islet covered with a dense growth of vegetation completely hiding the building underneath. When excavated, traces appeared of a circular building 42 feet in diameter all over, surrounded by a wall 7 to 10 feet thick, with a paved entrance on the east side opposite a submerged causeway some 40 yards long, which connects the dun with the eastern side of the loch.

A few fragments of pottery and bones, one or two hammer stones and a broken whetstone were found in the dun.¹

¹ Beveridge's *N. Uist*, p. 197.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 29 July 1914.

193. Dun, Buaile Risary, Ben Risary.—On the northern slope of Ben Risary about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of its summit, at an elevation of nearly 200 feet above sea-level, is a grass-covered knoll with an abrupt slope on its northern side showing outcrops of rock. The summit is occupied by the ruins of a number of late structures built on the site, and out of the material of a building which, judging from a section of a thick wall still remaining on the southern arc, has probably been a dun of circular plan. This section of walling is about 6 feet thick.

North Uist xxxiv.

194. Dun Eashader, Loch Eashader.—In Loch Eashader, a small hill loch, about 1 mile south of the township of Sollas, is a small island lying some 40 yards west of a long, narrow promontory on the east side of the loch and rising about 2 feet above the level of the water. It is entirely covered with fallen stones, the

ruins of Dun Eashader. What remains above water measures some 48 feet in diameter, but apparently the outer wall of the building has extended a few feet beyond the present water's edge as a small section of its outer face is visible under water to the west. On the southern edge, is a small oval basin enclosed by walling and measuring about 15 feet from east to west and 9 feet across. The entrance to the dun has been in the east side, the foundation course on the north wall of the passage being still in position. On the northern shore of the loch about 50 yards distant is a pier-like structure projecting into the loch, but whether this is the commencement of a submerged causeway or has been built for the convenience of anglers it is impossible to say.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 31 July 1914.

195. Duns (2) Loch na Gearrachun.—In Loch na Gearrachun, about 2 miles west of Sollas, are two island duns, the larger occupying an islet near the eastern end of the loch, and the smaller a similar position nearer the northern end, some 350 yards to the north-west; the sites now rise only about 2 and 3 feet above the level of the loch, which has recently been raised 1 foot in height.

The first dun lies some 30 yards west-north-west of a grassy promontory at the east end of the loch and about 60 yards from the southern shore. It is oval in shape, the wall following the edge of the islet, and measures 32 feet in length from east to west and 20 feet from north to south, the tumbled stones extending about 10 feet under water from the present edge. What look like the foundations of the outer face of the wall are seen under water on the north-eastern arc. There appears to be a submerged causeway from the dun to the point at the east-south-east.

From the southern shore of the loch opposite the dun a broad wall under water runs out into the loch for about 20 feet and then turns to the west. From its depth it can hardly have been a causeway.

The second dun lies about 35 yards from the northern shore of the loch, and is also oval in shape, measuring 28 feet from east to west and 22 feet from north to south, the tumbled stones from the wall extending about 10 feet beyond the edge of the islet under the water. Faint

indications of the outer face of the wall are to be seen in places under the water. A submerged causeway connects the dun with the northern shore of the loch.

From the appearance and distribution of the stone it is possible that both duns have been erected on artificial islands, but this cannot be verified without excavation.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 30 July 1914.

196. Dun, Loch Iosal an Duin.—About 1½ miles south-east of Port nan Long is Loch Iosal an Duin, a small loch near the south shore of the sound of Harris. About 35 yards from the south-western shore of the loch is an islet occupied by the remains of a dun. The island has been defended by a stone wall built round the edge, but, viewed from the shore, it is in a very ruinous condition, and the whole place is covered with a vigorous growth of brambles and other vegetation. The dun is connected with the shore by a narrow submerged causeway, which strikes out from the shore of the loch first in an eastward direction and then turns towards the south to the island.

North Uist xxxi. 15 August 1914.

197. Dun, Ob nan Stearnain, Lochmaddy.—On a small rocky island about the centre of Ob nan Stearnain ("Bay of the Terns"), a tidal loch lying immediately to the south of the road about ½ mile south-west of Lochmaddy, are the remains of what seems to have been a defensive structure. Viewed from the shore there are the remains of a wall showing several courses of building on the northern side of the islet, the other parts being steep and rocky.

Dr Beveridge says the wall is 7 feet broad and that on the high central part of the island there are traces of further buildings.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 23 July 1914.

198. Dun, Loch Obisary.—Lying at the western base of Eaval and Burrival, the two prominent hills on the south of the mouth of Loch Eport, is Loch Obisary, which opens into salt water. About 60 yards from the northern shore, some 300 yards east of the passage connecting it with Loch Eport, is a rocky islet with precipitous sides rising 15 to 18 feet above the water. Some of the intervals between the

rocks on its northern flank are filled in with drystone building, and along the western end of the southern side for a distance of 20 feet, at the edge of the water, is part of a wall rising about 2 feet at most above the loch. The summit of the islet is hog-backed, is covered with a thick layer of peat and other vegetation, and measures 75 feet in length from east to west, and only 15 feet in breadth. Near the west end a few boulders appear above the peat, perhaps part of a small building. In an islet to the south-east there seems to have been a stone building of very small dimensions.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 30 July 1915.

199. Dun (Nighean Righ Lochlainn), Loch an Duin, Portain.—About 500 yards north-north-east of the dun (No. 189), near the northern

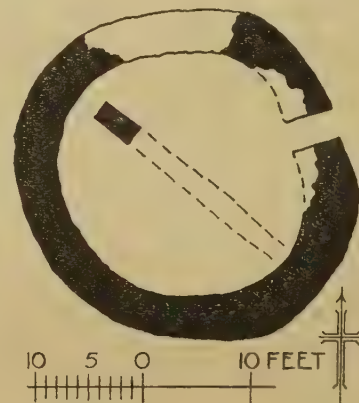


FIG. 114.—Dun (Nighean Righ Lochlainn), Portain (No. 199).

side of Loch an Duin, Portain, are the remains of a fine circular fort, Dun Nighean Righ Lochlainn ("fort of the daughter of the King of Norway"), the wall of which rises abruptly out of the water and still attains an average height of 5 feet for the greater part of the circumference. Towards the north, however, it is broken down. The dun measures from 30 feet to 32 feet 6 inches in diameter externally, and 22 feet 6 inches internally, the wall at a height of 5 feet being from 4 feet to 4 feet 6 inches thick. The entrance, 2 feet 4 inches wide, is in a tumbled part of the wall about 3 feet east of the end of the submerged causeway 100 feet long, which connects the islet with the shore of the loch. The causeway is about 5 feet broad and shows a slight curve,



FIG. 116—Dun, Loch a Gheadais (No. 185).

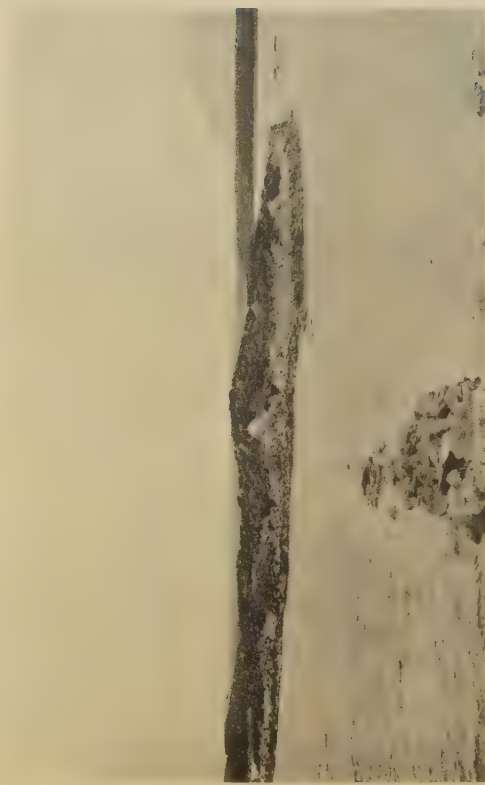


FIG. 118—Dun Scor, Loch Caravat (No. 208).

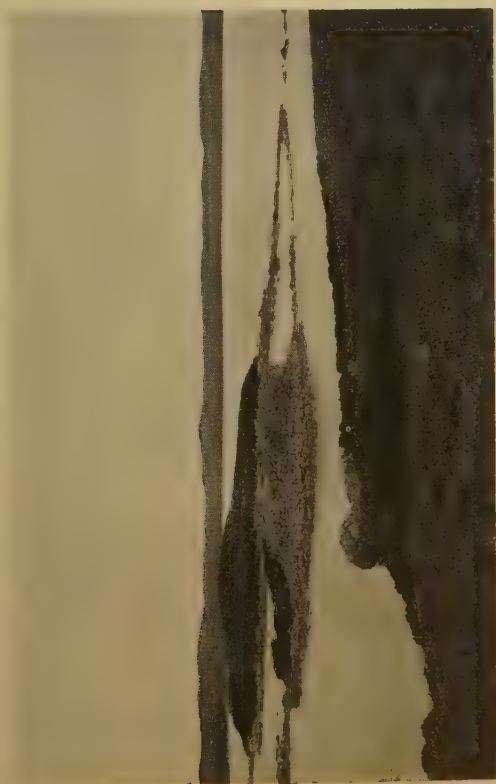


FIG. 115—Dun, Loch Hunder (No. 173).

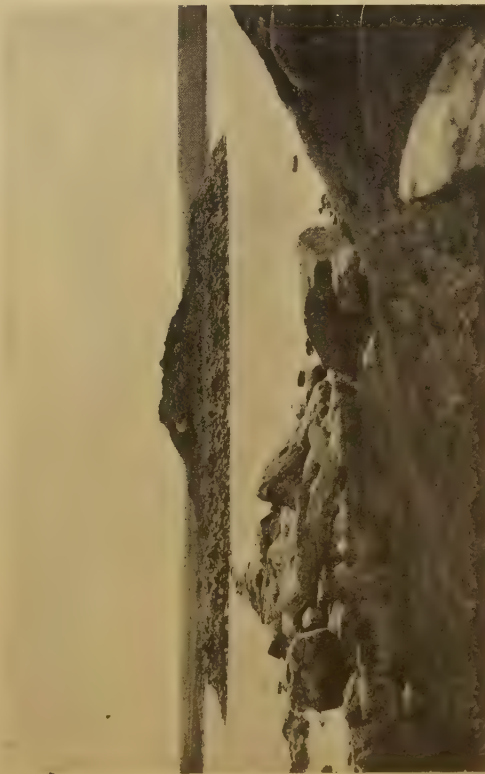


FIG. 117—Dun, Loch Huna (No. 204).

the convexity to the westward, in its course. The interior is filled with tumbled stones obscuring the internal structure, there being evidence of a cross wall separated from the main wall by an interval of about 2 feet. (Fig. 110.)

Some 66 feet west of the shore end of the causeway, on the face of the steep bank of the loch about 7 feet above the water, are two circular or oval stone huts, the best preserved to the west being about 5 feet in diameter. Apparently they have been entered from the south.

North Uist xxxii. 22 July 1914.

200. Dun, Dunan Dubh, Loch a Mheirbh.—Near the middle of Loch a Mheirbh, the north western arm of Loch an Duin, is a rocky islet completely overgrown with vegetation, rising about 15 feet above the level of the water. It is connected with the northern shore of the loch by a submerged causeway forming a double curve in its course about 40 yards in length. Traces of an encompassing wall are visible along the northern and southern sides of the islet near the water's edge, but the interior is so completely overgrown that no interior structures can be detected.

North Uist xxxi. 20 August 1915.

201. Dun, Loch an Duin.—Towards the northern end of Loch an Duin, about $\frac{3}{8}$ mile north-east of Dun Torcuill (No. 172), is a small rocky islet, rising about 3 feet above the water and lying some 50 yards from the eastern shore of the loch, to which it is connected by a deeply submerged causeway with a rather zigzag course. Towards the landward end of the causeway there are indications of a break, about a yard across, possibly intentional. The islet is oval and is surrounded at the water's edge by a ring of tumbled stones, evidently the remains of a defensive wall which is entirely destroyed except perhaps on the western side, where outside a small rock there seems to be one course of the outer face of the wall. The dun measures some 43 feet from east to west and 34 feet from north to south.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted). 20 August 1915.

202. Fortified Island, Loch Fada.—About 550 yards west of the end of the eastern arm

of Loch Fada is a long, narrow islet of irregular contour rising about 10 feet at most above the level of the loch, and measuring barely 100 yards from north-west to south-east and about 140 feet across at its widest part. It is covered by a thick layer of peat, but along its eastern side and southern end the face of a stone wall is visible in many places under the peat, showing at most 2 to 3 feet of building. Except at the southern end, where it is rather higher, it shows a general elevation of about 1 foot above the level of the interior, and its average width is about 4 feet. Some 50 feet from this outer wall at the south end a bank, running straight across the island from the west side for about two-thirds of its width, has the appearance of an inner defence. The outer wall cannot be traced along the western margin of the island, which, though more rocky than the other side, is not difficult of access. Near the centre of the eastern boundary is a gap about 6 feet wide, apparently an entrance, and a smaller gap less marked near the north-eastern corner of the island may have served a similar purpose, as may another gap at the southern end. At the extreme north is a mass of tumbled stone, perhaps the ruins of a building, near which, just above the water level, are three slabs like lintel stones, the largest of which measures 5 feet 8 inches long, 2 feet 5 inches broad and 3 inches thick.

On the northern shore of the loch about 35 yards distant is an irregular setting of stones projecting into the water which looks like the end of a submerged causeway.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 4 August 1914.

203. Dun, Eilean Scalaster.—"In the tidal sound which separates Carinish from Baleshare island is Eilean Scalaster at the northern extremity of Eilean Mor, and practically annexed to it unless at high-water. Upon the north end of this islet are the ruins of a circular fort showing a present height of 4 feet and an interior area about 26 feet in diameter, enclosed by a wall nearly 5 feet thick. Its entrance seems to have been from the east, running straight inwards for a length of 10 feet between parallel walls 30 inches apart. Here were observed some fragments of pottery.

"On lével ground near the centre of Eilean Mor are traces of a circular erection with an

interior diameter of 29 feet, its outer wall represented on the west by two courses in a thickness of about 5 feet. This site is locally known as *Tota Sgroilleig*, with evident reference to a female occupant.”¹

¹ Beveridge's *North Uist*, pp. 181-2.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted).

(LATE DUNS.)

204. Dun, Loch Huna.—At the south-eastern base of Uineval, some 2 miles east by north of Westford, lies Loch Huna, a loch about a mile long studded with a number of small islands, one of which, lying some 60 yards from the southern end of a long narrow promontory on its north-western shore, is crowned by an interesting dun (Fig. 117). Between the promontory and the dun there is a well-built causeway submerged for the greater part of its length to a depth of over one foot for the most of the year. It runs almost due north and south with a slight bulge towards the east, and has measured about 4 feet 6 inches in width at the top. The island is shaped like a flat-crowned hat with a broad flat brim, the rocky elevated central part rising about 15 feet above the water and 12 feet above the surrounding low part. It is of a roughly circular shape and measures about 60 yards in diameter. A massive stone wall in a very dilapidated condition rises from the water's edge, following the irregularities of the margin of the island. The outer face of this wall is almost entirely hidden by fallen stones, which extend at least about 10 feet beyond it outside, but under this debris it is apparently well preserved. For the greater part of its length it is still 5 feet in height outside, and at one place on the north-west 6 feet, and on the east in places shows 2 feet of building. It has an average width of about 7 feet, but in some places is thinner, as on the north where it is only 5 feet 3 inches thick and near the south-western corner 5 feet 9 inches thick. At various places there are hollowed-out places in the thickness of the wall, and some on the west side in the fallen debris outside the wall. These are apparently shooting butts, as at Dun Raouill, South Uist (No. 380).

The main entrance to the enclosure lies 17

feet west of the end of the causeway and it measures 3 feet 6 inches in width; its western wall is clearly defined, showing the wall to be 8 feet 9 inches thick at this part. The eastern wall of the passage is almost obscured by tumbled stones. At the south-west is an entrance showing a width of 6 feet 6 inches low down on the inside, possibly for the passage of boats, as it leads into a well-defined hollow 17 feet long and 7 feet wide bounded on the west by a row of stone blocks. The walls on either side of this opening are curved at the outside. There seems to be a similar entrance near the middle of the western side, but only the southern side showing a fine curve is traceable. On the north-western sector of the wall is a splayed opening measuring 2 feet 1 inch in width at the outside and 4 feet 1 inch about 4 feet 6 inches from the outside, where it is blocked up by stones and earth.

The elevated summit of the island is crowned by a long, rectangular building of stone erected partly on the site of an earlier structure, of which only a small part remains outside the north-western corner. The first building seems to have been circular on plan, but only some 18 feet of the building survives, showing a height of 3 feet for a short distance. It is composed of large blocks of stone built with an inward batter and is strongly suggestive of broch masonry. The later building lies almost north and south and measures internally some 55 feet in length and 18 feet 6 inches in breadth, the wall which stands 4 feet high in places inside measuring some 4 feet 6 inches in thickness. The only openings now visible are in the east side and these consist of a door some 13 feet 6 inches from the south end and two windows between it and the north end. The door is 2 feet 9 inches wide, the nearest window 3 feet wide inside and 3 feet 6 inches wide outside, and the almost northerly window 3 feet 3 inches wide on the inside. On the flat between the high central part and the outer wall there are four rectangular buildings, one on the east and three on the west and north-west. The eastern building measures internally some 25 feet from east to west and 15 feet from north to south and has a door in its northern wall about 3 feet 6 inches wide. Of the three buildings on the opposite side, which are intercommunicable, the best preserved lies to the

south and it measures internally some 26 feet 6 inches long and 15 feet broad. It has an entrance in its southern side as well as another on the north leading into the adjoining structure. While the main axis of the southern chamber lies east and west, that of the two others follow the medial line between the raised part of the island and its enclosing wall. Impinging on the outside of the northern gable of this building is a smaller enclosure 10 feet in length from east to west and 9 feet in breadth.

North Uist xxxiv. 21 July 1924.

205. Dun Mhic Raouill, Loch Eaval, Tighary.—This dun is inaccessible except by boat. Dr Beveridge's description is as follows: "Upon an island in Loch Eaval are the ruins of a fort marked on the Ordnance map as Dun Mhic Raouill—'fort of the son of Reginald (or Ranald),' from the Norse *Rögnvaldr*, represented by *Raonull* in Gaelic.

"This island, measuring nearly 35 yards in diameter, is connected with the shore on the north-east by a submerged causeway about 50 yards in length, and still shows traces of a wall, 5 feet thick, surrounding it at the water's edge.

"The interior arrangements evidently included a central structure 24 feet in diameter, with ramparts 9 feet wide; this being supplemented by an additional wall, 5 feet in thickness, situated at an interval of 10 feet and leaving a space of about 12 feet between it and the general enclosing wall. The first noted interval—that of 10 feet—has been sub-divided into at least eight segments by a series of transverse or radial walls varying from 2 to 4 feet in breadth.

"At the west side of this island is a boat-harbour, artificially walled in a width of 5 yards and recessed to the extent of about 6 yards, with a shallow inner bend towards the south.

"Of the interior walls at Dun Mhic Raouill little more than the foundations remain. We were informed that stones have been systematically removed from this site by means of rafts, to serve for the erection of cottages in the vicinity."¹

¹ Beveridge's *North Uist*, p. 192.

North Uist xxxiii. 16 August 1915.

206. Fortified Island, Eilean Buidhe, Loch Skealtar.—Some 120 yards from the southern

shore and 350 yards from the eastern end of Loch Skealtar, which lies about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles west of Lochmaddy, is a flat grass-covered islet, Eilean Buidhe ("yellow island"), partially encompassed by the remains of a stone wall. The island, irregular in outline, measures some 162 feet from north to south and about the same distance across the southern end; it contracts in width near the centre and expands again on the north. In general height the island is about 5 feet above the level of the loch, but in its northern end it rises to a height of about 10 feet. It shows the remains of a defending wall only round the southern end and along both flanks for a distance of about 140 feet. At the south-western corner and along the western flank portions of the wall still reach a height of about 3 feet and show a width of some 4 feet. In the line of the wall at the south-western corner is a pillar of stone 4 feet 8 inches high, 2 feet 3 inches broad, and 1 foot 6 inches thick.

Near the centre of the eastern and western sides of the island, where it contracts in width, are two small, shallow bays converted into harbours by the protecting wall being carried across their mouth. The harbour on the eastern side, which is the smaller of the two, is entered by a clearly defined gap in the wall 6 feet wide, and the western harbour, which measures 30 feet in length from north to south and 15 feet in width, is provided with a carefully-fashioned entrance 7 feet wide, the wall on either side curving inwards for a few feet.

At the southern end of the island there is a ruined gateway or boat-slip about 4 feet 6 inches wide. Opposite it on the southern shore of the loch, at the end of a small promontory, is a setting of stones carried under the water, suggesting a submerged causeway.

Apparently there have been a number of buildings on the island, one of which, abutting on the wall to the south and slightly to the west of the axial line of the island, is represented by a mass of stones 18 feet long and 12 feet broad, and another near the south-east corner of the island by a circular heap 11 feet in diameter.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 7 August 1914.

207. Dun, Loch Scadavay.—In the most westerly arm of Loch Scadavay there are two islets distinguishable from the usual heather-

covered islands of the district by their luxuriant covering of green. The western island, which lies in the centre of the loch about 400 yards from the west end, has been fortified by a stone wall built round the margin. It is unapproachable except by boat, but it has been visited by Dr Beveridge,¹ who says that locally it is said to have been approached by a causeway, a statement which could not be verified. The island, which is long and narrow with steep sides and a flattish top, measuring about 8 yards across, and 15 feet in height, has been walled all round its scanty margin close to the water's edge. This wall is 5 feet thick, and is pierced by three boat entrances, two on the northern side (one evidently leading into a small boat harbour) and the other on the south, all showing a very uniform width of about 56 inches.

¹ *North Uist*, p. 159.

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 29 July 1915.

208. Dun Scor, Loch Caravat.—In the northern part of Loch Caravat, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-east of Clachan a Luib, is an islet marked Dun Scor on the O.S. map. No traces of defences are noticeable on this site, but on the eastern side is a small boat harbour running some 18 feet into the island, with a width of some 6 feet. The adjoining island some 80 yards to the south-west, named Eilean Dubh Dun Scor on O.S. map, is apparently the fort proper. This dun lies some 150 yards south of a small promontory on the northern shore of the loch, and about 70 yards west of a larger islet, to which its south-western end is connected by a partly submerged S-shaped causeway about 3 feet broad on the top. This westerly island is joined to the northern shore of the loch by a short causeway standing clear of the water, and to the southern shore by a longer causeway submerged for the greater part of its length. (Fig. 118.)

The island occupied by the dun is of irregular, oval outline, measuring about 200 feet in length from north-north-east to south-south-west and some 127 feet across at the widest part, and it rises in places about 12 feet above the water. It has been defended by a stone wall built round its irregular margin. This wall, though for the greater part reduced to a height of some 3 feet above the water, is in a much better

state of preservation than in the average Hebridean dun, and in places reaches a height of 5 feet. Many of the stones are very large. The best preserved portion lies to the north-east of the island end of the causeway, and one section some 17 feet in length shows a height of from 5 to 6 feet on the outside, and some 3 feet on the inside; on the summit it is 2 feet 6 inches thick and lower down it is considerably thicker. There are three entrances to the dun, two near the southern end of the north-western flank and one near the northern end of the south-eastern side. Of the former, the first is placed 18 feet 6 inches north-east of the causeway, and with a width varying from 2 feet 6 inches to 3 feet slants through the wall slightly towards the south; the second, some 4 feet in breadth, goes straight through the wall some 22 feet 6 inches north-east of the first. The entrance at the opposite end of the dun seems to have been a water-gate for a boat, as there is a slight excavation inside the wall extending some 13 feet from the outside over a width of 8 to 10 feet.

Within the wall, opposite the causeway, there are indeterminate stone foundations hid by a covering of heather, royal ferns, bramble and honeysuckle, and a few feet above the water-gate are indications of further building.

North Uist xl. 2 August 1915.

209. Dun Ban, Loch Hunder.—In the centre of Loch Hunder and about 200 yards or thereby to the north-west of the construction described in No. 173 is another fortified islet, of larger size, which bears the distinctive name of Dun Ban. The entire surface of the islet, measuring about 30 yards in diameter and rising to a height of from 5 to 10 feet above the water-level, is occupied by the dun, which is of special interest in being one of the few examples apparently unconnected with the shore by a substantial causeway. The islet is fortified around the edge by a slight outer wall 3 feet thick, further supplemented by a strong inner rampart $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width and most clearly apparent on the north and west. At the east there is a clearly defined boat-entrance 11 feet wide externally but narrowing inwards and upwards over the rock. The north side of this water-gate is natural rock but the south is a constructed wall 9 feet in length. The area enclosed by the

two concentric lines of defence is about 55 feet in diameter, and facing the water-gate on the east there has been an inner circular erection measuring nearly 20 feet over its walls of about 30 inches in thickness and 3 feet in present height, with a doorway 34 inches wide on the east.

North Uist xl. 3 August 1915.

210. Dun Mhic Laitheann.—This construction occupies a position of natural strength on a precipitous rock adjacent to the island of Groatay, with which it is connected at low water. The rock measures approximately 50 yards east and west by 30 yards north and south, and it has evidently had the additional protection of a wall, varying from 9 to 10½ feet in thickness, around its edge. At the north-east corner and impinging on the outer wall are the remains of an oblong enclosure of peculiar type, 50 feet in length, and from 10 to 12 feet in width, its west end now entirely open, although at one time probably built up except for a doorway. At the highest point on the east are the remains of a strong rectangular building with walls 6 feet thick and an internal area of about 23 by 15 feet, and at the lowest part in the centre is a small walled enclosure which it has been suggested may have been a water reservoir. Cf. Beveridge's *North Uist* pp. 144-6.

Of the neighbouring larger island of Hermetray, Martin, in his *Description of the Western Islands* (p. 51), writes as follows: "I saw here the foundation of a house built by the English in King Charles the First's time, for one of their magazines to lay up the cask, salt, etc., for carrying on the fishery, which was then begun in the Western Islands; but this design miscarried because of the civil wars which then broke out."

North Uist xxxii (Site).

211. Dun an t-Siamain, Loch Dun an t-Siamain, Eaval.—Dun an t-Siamain is an interesting fort and much better preserved than the great majority of the Hebridean duns. It occupies the whole area of a small island about 40 yards from the eastern shore of Loch dun an t-Siamain, a small loch lying at the foot of the south-western slope of Eaval. It is connected with the shore by a causeway lying

partly now on dry land, and partly in the water, above which it rises to a height of about 2 feet. This indicates that there has been a considerable fall in the level of the loch. The causeway is well preserved, and seems to have had a general width of 4 to 5 feet, and it measures about 56 yards in length. It follows a very erratic course, for while its general direction is westerly, it curves towards the north for the first 50 feet, then strikes out in a north-westerly direction for some 46 feet, returning in a sickle-like curve to the dun some 73 feet in length. About 12 feet from the island end a modern wall has been built across it. The dun is sub-oval on plan, but facing the east-south-east the wall forms an obtuse angle. Externally it measures 46 feet 6 inches from north-west to south-east, and 42 feet across. The wall of the dun rises directly out of the water, and though a considerable quantity of stones has fallen outside from its summit, it still maintains an average height of some 4 feet, rising to 6 feet at the north; on the western side a short section is broken down and the building is quite hidden by tumbled stones. The interior is completely filled with stones which obscure nearly the whole of the inner face of the wall, but where this is visible, as on the eastern side, the wall measures 5 feet 9 inches in thickness at the top.

The doorway into the dun, which has penetrated the wall some 6 feet south-east of the end of the causeway, is blocked with stone, but the southern jamb is traceable, and two slabs, one lying inside the passage and another outside, have probably been lintels.

In the southern end of the dun a wide, well-preserved opening, a water-gate, measures 7 feet 6 inches in breadth at the outside and narrows very slightly inwards. The wall on the west is 4 feet 8 inches thick and is 6 feet high, and on the east it is 4 feet 4 inches thick.

Outside the collapsed portion of the wall to the west is a significant circular flooring of stones on the bed of the loch, extending some 16 feet from the wall of the dun. The marginal blocks are carefully placed in a regular curve, but the inner part of this construction, possibly a boat harbour, is covered with tumbled blocks of stone.

On the bank of the loch, in a slight hollow some 25 yards east of the land end of the

causeway, are the stone foundations of an oval structure, measuring internally 9 feet in length, and 7 feet in breadth.

North Uist xl. 14 August 1915.

212. Dun Tomi (Thomaidh), Vallay Sound.—On a small island in Vallay Sound, the narrow strait separating the island of Vallay from Grinish, are the ruins of Dun Thomaidh. The place is in a very dilapidated condition, but apparently consisted of two concentric walls, the outer ringing the island within high-water level, the inner surrounding a house and some other smaller buildings. This inner enclosure is about 50 feet in diameter over walls. On the north-east and southern arcs sections of the outer face, built of large blocks of stone, remain in position at most up to 3 feet. Its distance from the outer enclosure, measured between the faces, varies from 15 feet on the south to 30 feet on the west.

On the east side of the dun are indications of a small harbour or boat entrance extending outwards into the water, but at low tide this must have been dry.

The dun is connected with a tidal islet on the southern shore of Vallay to the north by a massive causeway 87 yards long and about 10 feet wide, a gap of 12 feet occurring near the island end of this structure. In all probability this gap is part of the original structure, but it may have been widened at a later period to permit the passage of boats.

Stones from this place are reported to have been "carried away to build a house at Vallay."¹

¹ *Archaeol. Scot.*, V., p. 402.

North Uist xxx. 29 July 1914.

213. Dun Aonais (or Aonghuis).—Loch Aonais lies by the roadside behind some cottages, about six miles north-west of Lochmaddy. In it is an island enclosed, as in so many other examples in North Uist, with a drystone wall, which follows the sinuosities of the shore close up to the water, except on a small portion of the southern margin and a rather larger part of that on the north; elsewhere only fallen stones make up the edge between wall and water. The outer face of this wall is almost completely defined, but only for one short section (see plan, Fig. 119) can the inner face

be plainly traced. Generally this inner side is a sloping grassy mound. The wall seems to have varied irregularly in thickness from about 7 to 9 feet and in places still stands to a height of 5 feet. From a position on the east sector a causeway ran to the shore, but is now wholly submerged save for a few stones on the mainland shore. It has been at least partially followed by an exploring resident. A few yards

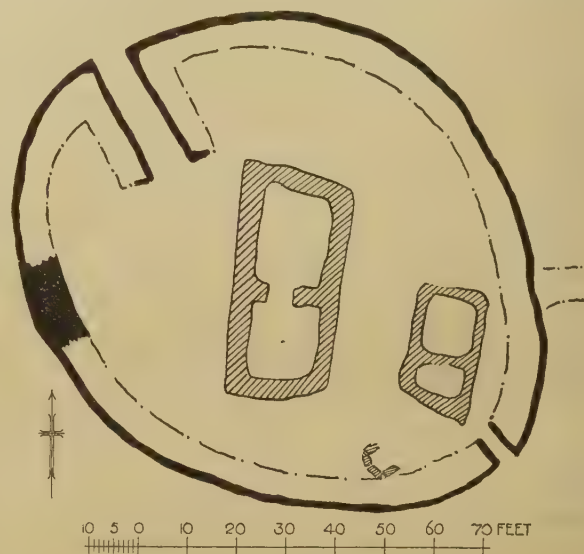


FIG. 119.—Dun Aonais (No. 213).

south of the island end is an entrance about 3 feet 9 inches wide. Almost directly opposite on the northern perimeter is a "boat entrance," extending for some 20 feet beyond the inner face, between parallel walls, 7 to 8 feet apart and 7 feet thick, that on the east being slightly curved outwards. These walls are now reduced to foundations.

The interior is overgrown with long grass and nettles, but was occupied across its greatest breadth by an oblong building of two apartments with a smaller building, less well defined, of similar character in the south-east corner. The interiors at least of these structures have rounded corners. West of the smaller building are some other incomplete foundations.

The mainland to the east and south of the loch and its dun is a considerable stretch of hill slope, which affords good grazing; on the other sides the land is flat with a few scattered cottages.

This dun appears to take its name from a



FIG. 120—Entrance, Dun Ban
(No. 215).



FIG. 121—Standing Stone, Crois
Chnoca Breaca (No. 408).



FIG. 122—Armorial Panel, Howmore
(No. 367).



FIG. 123—Dun Ban, Loch Caravat (No. 215).



FIG. 124—Dun, Loch Druim an Iasgair, Carnan (No. 381).

certain "Angus the Fair" (*Aonghas Fionn*), who is said to have occupied it in the first quarter of the sixteenth century.¹ He may well have been its builder.

¹ Mackenzie's *History of the Macdonalds*, p. 255.

North Uist xxxi. 17 July 1924.

214. Dun Nighean Righ Lochlainn, Loch an Duin, Breinish.—This dun is situated on an islet in the very small loch, Loch an Duin, lying at the eastern border of the peninsula of Breinish on the northern shore of Loch Eport, from which it is separated by a ridge of land barely 100 yards in width. Sometimes called Dun Eideann, Dun Nighean Righ Lochlainn bears a strong resemblance to the dun of the same name in Portain (No. 199), the north-eastern part of North Uist. The dun occupies the whole area of the islet and is surrounded by a stone wall rising directly out of the water with a slight inward batter, which still shows a height of about 5 feet 6 inches, except on the north-east where it is only about 2 feet 6 inches high. The wall measures about 4 feet 6 inches in width across the top. The fort is oval on plan, measuring all over some 31 feet from north-west to south-east, and some 26 feet across. The position of the entrance is doubtful; on the north-west, opposite the nearest point of land some 86 feet distant, a collapse in the wall may indicate where it was situated, while at the opposite side, the south-east, what appears to be the western jamb of an opening can be detected under a thick cover of honeysuckle and brambles. There are evidently structures within the dun, but these are quite hidden under very rank vegetation and brushwood. (Fig. 108.)

From the north-western shore of the loch, what looks like the commencement of a stone causeway extends some 32 feet into the water in the direction of the dun, but in the next 54 feet there are no indications of its continuation in the bed of the loch, which is 4 feet 6 inches deep at this part.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 4 August 1915.

215. Dun Ban, Loch Caravat, North Uist.—Dun Ban, on an islet about 200 yards from the southern shore of Loch Caravat, is possibly

the most interesting of the insulated dwellings in the Western Isles, for while it must be classed with the island duns and is one of a plan common in the neighbourhood, it is

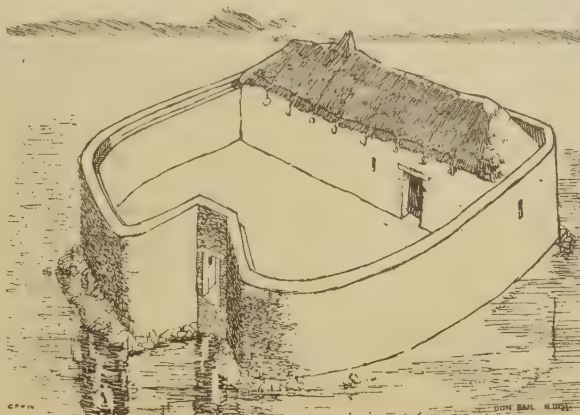


FIG. 125.—Dun Ban, Loch Caravat (restoration) (No. 215).

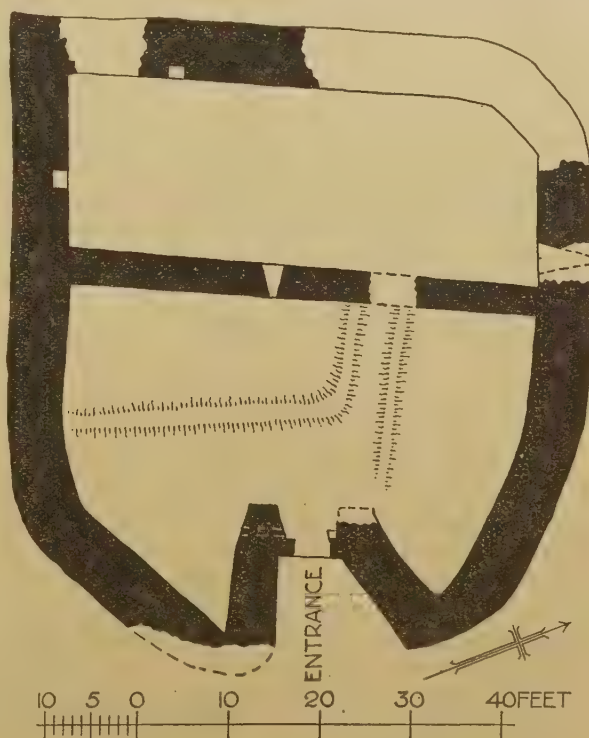


Fig. 126.—Dun Ban, Loch Caravat: Plan (No. 215).

a mediæval structure built with lime mortar and having features in common with the castles of the mainland, with which the builder was evidently familiar. (Fig. 123.)

The islet is entirely occupied by the structure,

which measures externally 64 by 71 feet and is D-shaped on plan, the frontal curve lying towards the east being penetrated by a re-entrant containing the doorway. The outer wall, 9 feet in greatest height, averages $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness and is built of rubble roughly coursed, with pinnings in places, laid in a heavy lime mortar bed of poor quality containing sea shells. While the masonry of the entrance is heavily grouted, in the other parts mortar seems to have been used only for bedding. The entrance is set back 12 feet within a recess similar to the "boat harbour" noted in other duns. The doorway is 4 feet wide, and the sill is 3 feet above the foundation and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the water; the jambs are checked on either side for the door, and the barhole 8 inches square is found in the southern jamb, the corresponding socket being ruinous. (Fig. 120.)

The interior is divided transversely into two unequal portions. The inner, which lies at a lower level than the other, is a dwelling apparently one-storeyed and comprising a single chamber $51\frac{1}{2}$ by $19\frac{1}{4}$ feet, which contains two aumbries and narrow windows with splayed jambs to north and east. Other chambers in the outer part are represented only by mounds of debris, but it is probable that small angular chambers roofed with flags lay on either side of the entrance.

North Uist xl. 18 July 1924.

CAIRNS.

216. Cairn (?), **Laiaval**.—Some 400 yards east of Tobar Chaluim Chille, on a shelf under Craig Laiaval, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, is a mound of stones resembling a cairn measuring some 40 feet from north to south and 35 feet from east to west and rising about 4 feet above the general level. On the summit are several small erect slabs rising from 1 foot to 2 feet in height, possibly a ruined shieling. About 50 yards to the west is a line of boulders, the remains of a dyke.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted). 12 August 1914.

217. Long Cist, **Cailleacha Dubha**, **Boreray**.—On the south-eastern slope of a hill some 200 yards north-east of the school in the island of Boreray, and about the same distance from

the shore, at an elevation of about 50 feet above sea-level, are three large slabs, set on edge in a line running north-north-east and south-south west, known as Cailleacha Dubha ("the black women"), apparently the remains of the long burial chamber of a large cairn which has been stripped of its covering of stones. The largest stone stands at the southern end of the row, and measures 5 feet 9 inches in height and 8 feet in length; it slightly overlaps the central stone, which is 4 feet 4 inches in height and 5 feet 10 inches in length; the third stone, which stands 1 foot 5 inches from the last mentioned slab, is 5 feet 1 inch high and 5 feet 5 inches in length. Immediately to the north-west of the last two stones is a large prostrate slab, measuring some 8 feet 1 inch in length, 6 feet 3 inches in breadth and 1 foot 2 inches in thickness. On the opposite side of the line of erect slabs is a row of five smaller stones placed at a distance varying from 3 feet 5 inches at one end of the row to 5 feet at the other end. (Fig. 132.)

North Uist xxvi. 11 August 1915.

218. Chambered Cairn, **Oban nam Fiadh**, **Loch Eport**.—Near the lowest part of the summit of the ridge between Loch Caravat and Oban nam Fiadh, one of the inner recesses of Loch Eport near its western end, at an elevation of some 30 feet above sea-level, is a very dilapidated chambered cairn marked "Stone Circle" on O.S. map. The greater part of the cairn has been carried away, leaving a heap of stones, some 4 feet in height, and part of the chamber on the east-north-east. The cairn seems to have been circular, with a diameter of at least 55 feet. The outline of the chamber is marked by five upright slabs, three on the west and two on the south-east, which stand about 3 feet 6 inches above the debris in which they are embedded, and 6 feet above the exterior of the cairn. The chamber has been oval on plan, measuring about 12 feet 6 inches at greatest diameter. Within it are two large prostrate slabs, apparently fallen from the roof and measuring 10 feet 4 inches in length, 6 feet 6 inches in breadth, and about 11 inches in thickness, and 7 feet in length, 5 feet 2 inches in breadth, and 11 inches in thickness respectively. Some 7 feet 8 inches north-east of the

chamber is a slab, 2 feet 9 inches in length and 2 feet 6 inches in height, set on edge, which has possibly been one of a marginal ring of stones.

North Uist xl. 2 August 1915.

219. Chambered Cairn, Loch Glen na Feannag, Loch Eport.—On a plateau at the base of the eastern slope of Craonaval, about 150 yards south of the passage from Loch Eport into Oban nam Fiadh, and about the same distance north-west of Loch Glen na Feannag, is a very dilapidated chambered cairn. It has been stripped of a large portion of its stony covering, leaving a mound of stones, measuring some 54 feet from east to west, and 4 feet in height, from which some of the large slabs of the wall of the chamber project about 3 feet higher. The outer part of the entrance passage, despoiled of its lintels, remains undisturbed on the east-south-east. Three of the wall slabs of the chamber remain in or near their original position, one on the west measuring 2 feet 9 inches in height above the debris, 5 feet 6 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 7 inches in thickness, another on the north showing an exposed

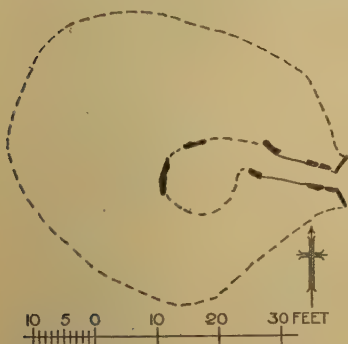


FIG. 127.—Chambered Cairn, Loch Glen na Feannag (No. 219).

height of 4 feet 8 inches and a width of 2 feet 11 inches, and the third towards the east of smaller dimensions and with a considerable outward slant. From these indications the chamber seems to have been circular with a diameter of about 10 feet 6 inches, and the entrance passage about 16 feet in length. The outer part of the entrance passage is defined, for a distance inwards of about $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet, by two slabs about 2 feet in height, set on edge 2 feet 4 inches apart at the outer end, and 3 feet 5 inches apart at the inner end. The slab on the west side is 5 feet 6 inches long and the opposite one 4 feet 8 inches long. The portal is formed by two slabs 2 feet 4 inches high, 2 feet 9 inches broad, and 7 inches thick, and 2 feet 5 inches high, 3 feet broad, and 6 inches thick respectively, set 2 feet 4 inches

apart with a very wide outward splay from the walls of the passage. In line with, and some 3 feet 6 inches further in than the northern side slab of the passage already described, is another large erect stone 4 feet long, 3 feet 8 inches high, and 15 inches thick, lying against which are two large slabs. One slab, probably a lintel, lies across the passage, but it has been disturbed. Within the chamber, partly embedded in soil, is a stone having the appearance of a roofing flag, at least 7 feet long, and 4 feet 8 inches broad. Outside the chamber on the south-west is a confused mass of large, flat stones of which three are of considerable dimensions, and another, a pillar or lintel-stone, lies to the north. This cairn is marked "Stone Circle" on O.S. map. (Fig. 133.)

North Uist xl. 4 August 1915.

220. Long Chambered Cairn, Barpa, Carinish.—This long cairn, which is in a very dilapidated condition, lies about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles east of Carinish, and about 300 yards east-north-east of the stone circle (No. 248), at an elevation of about 50 feet above sea-level. Much of its material has been used to build houses in the neighbourhood and the shielings which encroach on the cairn. Its original dimensions cannot be determined, but it has been more than 158 feet in length and 50 feet in breadth across the centre, where the mound still rises 9 feet in height. Its main axis is almost east and west. The western end tails away sharply, both in width and height, for the last 25 feet. The chamber has probably been in the eastern end, but as this portion has suffered most its position cannot be located. Five slabs varying from 1 foot to 4 feet 3 inches in height, placed on edge in line along the eastern end of the northern border, over a distance of 32 feet 6 inches, seem to indicate a marginal setting of such slabs. From either side of the eastern extremity two horn-like banks of stone run out north-east and south-east with a slight curve backwards, their extremities terminating about 148 feet apart. The northern horn for some 40 feet at its extreme end measures some 4 to 6 feet in breadth and 1 foot in height, and the other on the south shows about the same dimensions for the 33 feet it extends outside the cairn. From the extremity of the latter the ruined wall of a later enclosure re-curves sharply.

There are very few large slabs left in the cairn. One measuring 4 feet 4 inches in height above the stones, 4 feet 9 inches in breadth, and 17 inches in thickness, stands in a tilted position at the south of the east end of the cairn, and two smaller stones appear nearer the centre of this extremity. While there is not sufficient evidence, owing to the destruction which has taken place, especially at the eastern end of the cairn, to say that this is a horned cairn, the horn-like projections differ entirely in character from the late walls of enclosures seen adjoining the cairn.

North Uist xl. 9 August 1915.

221. Cairn, Cnoc nan Aingeal, Carinish.—On the summit of a rocky hillock, Cnoc nan Aingeal, rising from the shore some 300 yards north-north-east of Teampull na Trionaid at Carinish, is a small cairn of stones, 12 feet in diameter, and 2 feet in height. In the adjoining marshy hollow to the east is a circular knoll, apparently rocky and natural, rising about 10 feet in height, which is surrounded a few feet from its base by a ring of stones placed in a low bank of earth. The stones have a general height of about 2 feet, are placed a few feet apart, and are very numerous on the south and west sides. The space enclosed by them measures about 110 feet from west-north-west to east-south-east, and some 102 feet across.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 13 August 1915.

222. Slabs and Cairns, Craonaval.—Craonaval is a low hill about 2 miles south-east of Clachan, rising little more than 300 feet above sea-level, and terminating in two rounded summits about 300 yards apart. It is notable for the numerous prehistoric burial monuments erected on its slopes or their immediate vicinity. On the north-western summit are two large slabs known as Leac a Mhiosachan, partly embedded in peat, lying roughly parallel about 3 feet apart. The largest and south-eastern slab measures 11 feet 9 inches in length, 4 feet 2 inches in breadth, and about 1 foot in thickness. Under it and open to the south-east is a cavity about one foot in depth, at the south-western end of which are two small boulders. The slab, however, does not rest on these, but is tilted a few inches above them. The other slab measures 6 feet in length and over 4 feet in breadth.

About half-way down the gentle slope of the hill to the north are two prominent grass-covered, stony mounds, lying about 120 yards apart and crowned by ruined shielings. These have probably been cairns. The higher cairn measures some 65 feet in diameter and 6 feet in height, and the lower, though it stands 8 feet high, is so pulled about that no indications of its diameter can be obtained.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 4 August 1915.

223. Chambered Cairn, Craonaval.—Some 220 yards down the north-western slope of Craonaval from Leac a Mhiosachan (No. 222), on its north-western summit, at an elevation of about 300 feet above sea-level, is a denuded chambered cairn. A mound of stones, some 28 feet in diameter and 3 feet in height, occupies the centre of the site. In the middle of this stony mound there is a small chamber, bordered by four slabs set on end, measuring about 4 feet 4 inches square and filled with earth and stone to within 1 foot 6 inches of its present top. Some 21 feet west of this chamber is a pointed standing



FIG. 128.—Chambered Cairn, Craonaval (No. 223).

stone which measures 5 feet in height, 3 feet 1 inch in breadth at its widest part, and 10 inches in thickness. It faces the cairn and the top is tilted slightly towards it. A bi-partite chamber or segmented long cist of two compartments, measuring some 12 feet 8 inches in length, following the eastern radial line of the cairn, lies some 11 feet 6 inches from the central small chamber. The partition between the compartments is formed by two stones set on

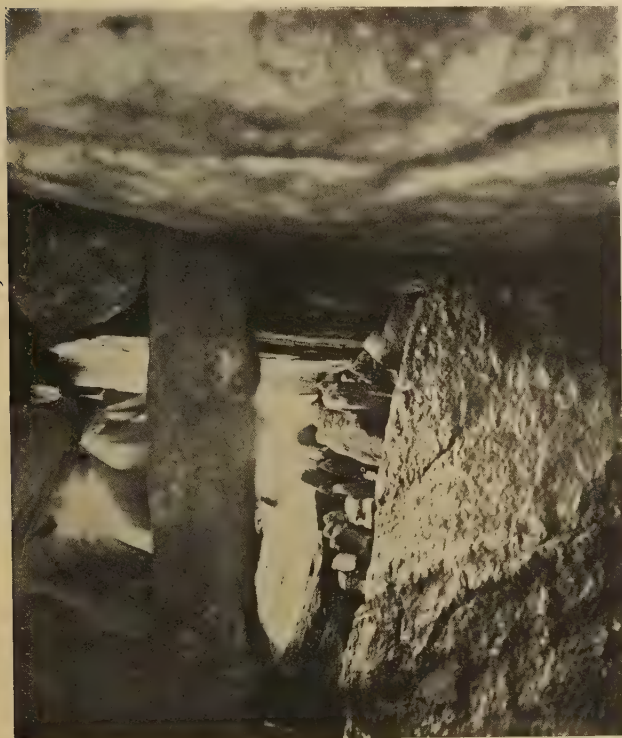


FIG. 129—Interior of Chamber



FIG. 130—Entrance to Passage.



FIG. 131—The Cairn.

CHAMBERED CAIRN, BARPA LANGASS (No. 224).

To face p. 72.



FIG. 132—Long Cist, Cailleacha Dubha (No. 217).



FIG. 133—Chambered Cairn, Loch Glen na Feannag (No. 219).



FIG. 134—Chambered Cairn, Craonaval (No. 223).



FIG. 135—Cairn, Dun na Carnaich (No. 231), with Clach Mhor a Ché (No. 252) in background.



FIG. 136—Chambered Cairn and Stone Circle, Leacach an Tigh Chloiche, Uineval (No. 228).

end, some 16 inches apart, forming an entry into the inner chamber, which is 5 feet 3 inches in length, 2 feet 11 inches in breadth at the western or inner end, and 4 feet 2 inches in breadth at the eastern end. Its sides are formed of two fine slabs 10 inches thick, that on the south showing a height of 2 feet 2 inches on the inside, and the other a height of 1 foot 3 inches; the inner end is formed by a slab set on end measuring 4 feet 8 inches in height, 2 feet 5 inches in breadth at the base, and 8 inches in thickness. An irregular slab lying to the north of this grave, measuring 6 feet 5 inches in length, 3 feet 11 inches at greatest breadth, and 10 inches in thickness, is probably the roofing flag of the chamber. From its length it seems to have rested on the tops of the pillar at the western end and the door jambs, in which case the vacancy between the side slabs presently in position and the roof would probably be filled in with drystone building. The outer compartment is not so clearly defined, but the northern side slab, and the jamb on the northern side of the entrance, a stone 1 foot 6 inches high, 2 feet 7 inches broad, and 6 inches thick, remain in position, showing the chamber to have been 6 feet 1 inch in length. Its breadth cannot be accurately determined as the slab on the south side, measuring 2 feet 3 inches in height, 4 feet 3 inches in length, and 1 foot thick, is considerably tilted outwards. Apparently, however, it has been more than 3 feet broad. Within the chamber is a partly embedded slab which may have fallen from the roof. About 10 feet south of the outer entrance to this double burial chamber another slab, lying parallel to the circumference of the cairn, is seen projecting above the peat. (Fig. 134.)

North Uist xl (unnoted). 4 August 1915.

224. Chambered Cairn, Barpa Langass, Ben Langass.—About 400 yards south of the road some 7 miles west-south-west of Lochmaddy, on the north-western slope of Ben Langass, at an elevation of about 130 feet above sea-level, is a chambered cairn known as Barpa Langass. The monument is in a very good state of preservation; the main structure of stones, devoid of soil or vegetation, seems intact except for several cavities on the surface of the mound, from which the stones have been

displaced, and for some damage at the exterior end of the entrance passage, from which the lintels have been removed. Previous to the erection of the structure the site had been levelled by excavation on the higher or south-eastern side, the excavated hollow extending some $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet beyond the mound and measuring $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height on the counterscarp. The cairn is circular and measures 80 feet in diameter and 14 feet in height, the outline being marked at irregular intervals by small slabs set on end, chiefly on the northern arc. These boundary slabs have an average height of about 2 feet and are placed from $9\frac{1}{2}$ feet to 30 feet apart, although two towards the south-east are only separated by a distance of $4\frac{1}{4}$ feet. (Fig. 131.)

In the east side of the cairn the entrance passage to a perfect megalithic chamber is exposed, the outer part of the passage for a distance of about 19 feet having the lintels removed and being blocked up with fallen stone. The passage, the walls of which are chiefly formed of slabs set on edge, continues in a straight course for a further 6 feet where the chamber is entered at its south-east corner. The outer section of the passage has been low-roofed and some 2 feet 9 inches in width. Its height is not ascertainable, but as already stated the lintels have been removed, but where the first of the remaining lintels, a stone 5 feet long by 4 feet 5 inches broad by $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick, is seen in position, the passage measures 2 feet 10 inches wide. From this point to the inner doorway of the chamber the south wall is formed mainly of one large slab $5\frac{3}{4}$ feet in length, while the opposite side is built of smaller stones. At the doorway of the chamber the roof of the passage rises to a height of $5\frac{3}{4}$ feet and its width contracts to 2 feet 2 inches at the top and 1 foot 7 inches at the bottom. A pillar, 1 foot wide by 6 inches thick by 1 foot 5 inches at the ingoing, forms the northern jamb. The southern wall of the chamber is not continued in the line of the south wall of the passage but stands 20 inches farther north. The chamber measures $9\frac{1}{4}$ feet from east to west and 6 feet from north to south and its height varies from about 6 feet at the entrance to over 7 feet at the opposite north-west corner. The walls of the chamber consist of five slabs of large size, one on the south side measuring 4 feet 7 inches in length and 5 feet in height, the opposite slab 5 feet by $6\frac{1}{4}$ feet,

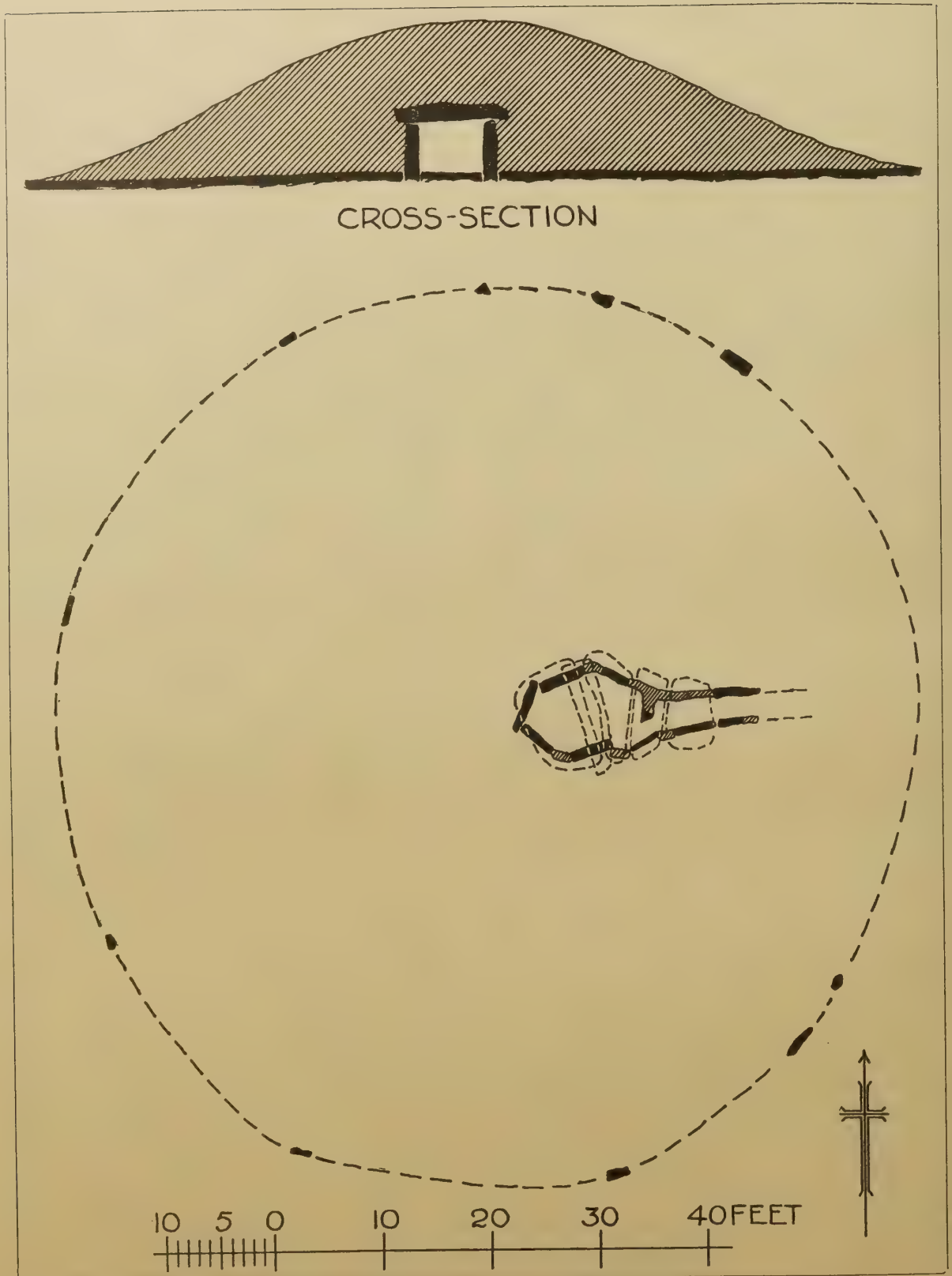


Fig. 137.—Chambered Cairn, Barpa Langass (No. 224).

the two in the west end 3 feet 8 inches and 3 feet 4 inches in width respectively, and one in the east end $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet. Two of the slabs do not reach the roof, but the vacancies between the slabs themselves and between the short ones and the roof are carefully built up with smaller stones. Two very large slabs placed across from north to south form the roof, with a third superimposed to cover a gap of 1 foot 4 inches between the first two. (Figs. 129, 130.)

The chamber and passage occupy only a small portion of the cairn, and it is quite likely that, as reported, there is another chamber in the northern part of the mound.

Several fragments of thin pottery with ornamentation apparently belonging to three different vessels, wood ashes, burnt bones, a calcined flint barbed arrowhead, a scraper and five other flakes of flint as well as a thin disc of talc 1 foot 4 inches in diameter, pierced with two holes close together near the edge, were found among debris removed from the chamber and are now preserved in the National Museum.

North Uist xl. 4 September 1914; 24 July 1924.

225. Chambered Cairn, Tigh Cloiche, Marrogh.—This barp, known as Tigh Cloiche, is built on a slight knoll on the south-eastern slope of Marrogh, just under the part where the steep declivity begins to fall away in a more gradual descent. It lies about 4 miles east-north-east of Westford, at an elevation of some 150 feet above sea-level, and overlooks a great stretch of flat bog broken up by innumerable lochs studded with small islands, and backed by the range of hills on the east side of the island and of Skye beyond.

The main bulk of the cairn has not been interfered with, but the chamber has been opened, part of the entrance passage destroyed, and the edges plundered to build the shielings, now ruined, which encroach on its base at different parts. Owing to the disturbance round the margin and on the summit it is impossible to get its exact dimensions, but it seems to have been practically circular with a diameter of some 70 feet. Its present height is 14 feet, but it has been rather higher, as one of the roofing slabs of the chamber is nearly level with the present summit. A ring of slabs set on end has encircled the cairn at the

margin, and eleven of these, the highest standing 4 feet in height, remain in position. The chamber, which lies south-east of the centre of the cairn, is in a dilapidated condition. It is roughly circular, the diameter being about 10 feet, and has been formed of large slabs set on end with drystone building filling up the vacancies between and above them. Two very large cover stones remain, the most southerly, which is in position, measuring 9 feet 9 inches in length, and 5 feet 1 inch in breadth, and the other, which lies tilted against the inside of the northern wall, measuring 8 feet 9 inches in length, and 7 feet 7 inches in breadth; both vary from 12 inches to 15 inches in thickness. The chamber has been entered from the south-east through a passage about 2 feet 8 inches broad, which rises a few feet, following the slope of the knoll as it approaches the chamber. As it now exists it begins about 4 or 5 feet from the edge of the cairn, and with the exception of a breach in the roof, 2 feet wide, some 3 feet from its present opening, it is well preserved for a distance of some 13 feet. The floor is covered with fallen stones, and it only shows a height of about 1 foot 2 inches above them. It is roofed in by strong lintels. The portal between the passage and the chamber is blocked up with debris, but its lintel stands about 7 inches lower than the adjoining lintel in the passage.

North Uist xxxiv. 29 July 1915.

226. Chambered Cairn, Airidh nan Seilicheag.—This cairn occupies the western end of a short, rocky ridge about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-east of the chambered cairn "Tigh Cloiche" (No. 225) and overlooking from the north the extreme western recess of Loch Scadavay, at an elevation of about 100 feet above sea-level. It is utterly ruined, the stones having been utilised to build the shielings, now in ruins, which surround it and encroach on its site. It has probably been circular with a diameter of about 60 feet. Towards the western end four upright slabs demark rather more than the eastern half of the chamber, which has been approximately circular with a diameter of some 10 feet 6 inches. These stones project from 2 feet to 3 feet 9 inches above the debris in which they are embedded, and about 11 feet above the base of the cairn. On the western side of the chamber

a large slab, apparently from the roof, lies in a tilted position; it measures 8 feet 1 inch in length, 6 feet 1 inch in breadth, and about 16 inches in thickness. Within the chamber is a long, prostrate slab measuring 9 feet 6 inches long, 4 feet 5 inches broad, and apparently about 17 inches thick. Between this chamber and the western edge of the cairn is another chamber, about 5 feet from east to west, and 4 feet across, with a large slab lying across its eastern end. Whether this is part of the original structure (it lies in the probable line of the entrance passage) or formed an adjunct to a shieling, it is impossible to say. On the south-western and western slopes, outside the chamber, there are a dozen slabs and pillars of considerable size, the largest measuring 8 feet 3 inches in length, 2 feet 1 inch in breadth and 1 foot 9 inches in thickness.

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 29 July 1915.

227. Long Cist (ruined), Uamh Airidh nam Faoch, Uineval.—Near the foot of the eastern slope of Uineval, about 400 yards north of the western arm of Loch Huna, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, is a group of shielings which occupy the summits and sides of several grass-covered mounds. At the northern margin of the group, denuded of any covering of stones or soil and lying on the level of the ground, are five large slabs covering a hollow now filled with fallen debris, possibly the chamber of a long cist running from north-north-east to south-south-west over a length of about 20 feet, known as Uamh Airidh nam Faoch. The most southerly slab has been displaced, but the others, except for being slightly tilted, probably retain their original position, their ends apparently resting on upright slabs at least 5 feet apart. The cover stones measure up to 7 feet in length and vary from 2 feet 3 inches to 3 feet in width.

The situation of the building is suggestive of an earth-house, but the size of the lintels and the fact that they seem to rest on upright slabs would indicate a long megalithic burial chamber.

A few shells were noted in the structure. The name means "Cave of the shieling of the periwinkles."

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 8 September 1914.

228. Chambered Cairn and Stone Circle, Leacach an Tigh Chloiche, Uineval.—On a plateau about half-way up the south-western slope of Uineval, at an elevation of about 250 feet above sea-level, with a fine prospect of the southern extension of the Long Island, is a ruined chambered cairn, Leacach an Tigh Chloiche ("place of slabs of the stone house"), within the eastern arc of a stone circle. The outline of the cairn and consequently its relative position to the ring of stones are somewhat problematical, as the mound has been torn to pieces to build at least five shielings, the ruins of which are enclosed within the limits of the circle.

The cairn has measured at least 36 feet in diameter and is now reduced to a height of about 6 feet. On the eastern side of the mound is a ruined oval chamber, measuring 7 feet 6 inches at least from east to west and 6 feet 6 inches from north to south, formed by six



FIG. 138.—Chambered Cairn and Stone Circle (No. 228).

upright slabs placed close side by side, which vary from 5 feet 3 inches to 2 feet 2 inches in height and from 3 feet 2 inches to 2 feet 3 inches in breadth; the largest stone in the inner end to the west rises 4 feet 6 inches clear above the present summit of the cairn, which thus must have had an original height of more than 11 feet (Fig. 136).

Of the encircling ring of stones only one, the largest, which measures 5 feet 5 inches in height, 3 feet 5 inches in breadth and 10 inches in thickness, and which stands on the west-north-



FIG. 139—Barpa nam Feannag (No. 238).

(From photo by Erskine Beveridge.)



FIG. 140—Stone Circle, Pobull Fhinn, Ben Langass (No. 250).

(From photo by Erskine Beveridge.)

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west of the circle, shows the true characteristics of a pillar of a stone circle; the eight other slabs, of which six remain in their original position and three have been displaced in the construction of shielings, have the appearance of boundary or marginal stones so often seen in the Hebridean chambered cairns. Three of the six undisturbed slabs, which are about 3 feet 6 inches in height and have a breadth of from 3 feet to 4 feet 6 inches, are placed on the east side of the cairn with a distinct inward slant, at distances of 1 foot 7 inches and 4 feet 6 inches apart, the most northerly of the three being set up almost in front of and within 2 feet of the eastern end of the chamber in the cairn. Unless these boundary stones had been some distance within the mound and covered with stones the eastern side of the cairn must have been very steep. The diameter of the circle from east-south-east to west-north-west is 48 feet 6 inches, and there is no evidence at hand to suggest that the whole space could have been covered with a heap of stones 11 feet in height. It seems unlikely that this place could have been used as a quarry as the ground at the foot of the hill is a peat bog, a serious impediment to the transport of stones, and there is no building within two miles except a dun in a loch less than a mile distant (No. 204).

At a distance of 33 feet west of the circle is a fine standing stone facing east-north-east, that is slightly to the north of the centre of the cairn. It measures 8 feet 4 inches in height, 11 inches in thickness, and is of irregular breadth. From a width of 5 feet at two-thirds its height it contracts on the northern side, about 1 foot from the ground, to a width of 3 feet 3 inches, and is 5 feet wide at the base.

North Uist xxxiv. 8 September 1914.

229. Chambered Cairn (ruined), Cringraival, Clachan.—About $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-west of Lochmaddy, on the summit of Cringraival, a small hill rising to a height of 129 feet above sea-level, immediately to the north-east of Clachan, is a very dilapidated chambered cairn, all that remains being a ring of stones 40 to 43 feet in diameter externally and 4 feet in height; not only has the cairn been reduced in height, but the central portion has been removed. Five large slabs or blocks lie near its eastern margin, two of which measure 5 feet 4 inches by 3 feet

2 inches by 1 foot 4 inches and 5 feet by 3 feet 6 inches by 1 foot respectively. Outside the heap to the east-north-east are two large slabs set on edge tilted to the north almost parallel to each other at a distance of 5 feet 6 inches apart, the southern slab being 6 feet 6 inches long, 5 feet 1 inch high, and 1 foot thick, while the other is 3 feet 8 inches long, 3 feet 3 inches high, and 8 inches thick. While these slabs have much the appearance of part of a chamber or entrance passage, the angle at which they are placed runs not towards the centre but towards the present southern edge of the cairn.

About 15 yards to the west-south-west at the bottom of a peat bank is a section of a low, loose wall of stones running directly under the peat towards the cairn. A length of 6 feet is exposed, which is about 2 feet broad and 2 feet high.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 12 September 1914.

230. Cairn, Carnan nan Long, Baleshare.—At Carnan nan Long, the north-east corner of the island of Baleshare, on the sea-shore and 10 feet above high-water mark, are the remains of a cairn overgrown with grass, measuring some 40 feet in diameter and 5 feet in height. To the west of the summit is an oval hollow, presumably the position of a cist or chamber. On either edge of the hollow are two large slabs 7 feet long, 4 feet 5 inches broad, and 11 inches thick, and 3 feet 10 inches long, 2 feet 8 inches broad, and 8 inches thick respectively, the first slab being suggestive of a cap stone.

North Uist xxxix. 7 September 1914.

231. Cairn, Chambered or Segmented (ruined), Dun na Carnaich, West Ford.—On the western shore of North Uist, opposite Kirkibost island, some 500 yards west of West Ford Inn, about 10 yards from and no more than 10 feet above high-water mark, are the ruins of a chambered or segmented cairn. Not only has it been reduced in height and diameter, but a large gap about 12 feet wide has been made down to the foundation from the north-east to the west side of the monument. It has measured at least 60 feet in diameter, and is now only 6 feet in height at the most. On the north side of the gap the remains either of a segmented chamber or entrance passage to a chamber have

survived, being traceable for about 16 feet and running slightly to the west of north from the centre of the cairn. Three large slabs set on edge placed end to end remain on the eastern side, the slab to the south measuring 5 feet 1 inch in length, 4 feet in height, and 10 inches in thickness, the other two being about 4 feet long. Opposite the first of these three slabs, at a distance of 3 feet 5 inches at the southern end, diminishing to 3 feet at the other end, is a slab 5 feet 3 inches in length, showing 3 feet above the ground, and at least 15 inches thick. A short distance to the north of it and on the same side of the passage or chamber is a smaller slab placed obliquely. On the north-west of the mound a slab 3 feet high, 2 feet 6 inches broad, and 13 inches thick resembles one of the slabs seen on the boundary of some of the other chambered cairns in the island. Three dislodged blocks of large size appear among the debris on the north-western arc of the cairn. (Fig. 135.)

North Uist xxxix. 5 September 1914.

232. Chambered Cairn and Stone Circle (ruined), Guala na h-Imrich, Marrival.—In the hollow, southern side of the ridge, Guala na h-Imrich, which connects Marrival with Beinn a'Charra, about 600 yards north of Loch Feirma and some $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles north-east of Claddach Kyles, at an elevation of about 200 feet above sea-level, is a much dilapidated cairn, probably chambered, with a number of standing stones surrounding it, evidently the remains of a stone circle. The cairn has been plundered to build at least a dozen shielings, known as Airidhan an t-Sruthain Ghairbh, whose ruins occupy the summit, sides, and immediate neighbourhood of the mound. Though much disturbed it seems to have been circular with a diameter of about 75 feet, and it still attains a height of about 8 feet. Towards the south-eastern edge is a hollow filled with stones showing a slab set on end on its west side suggestive of an entrance passage to a chamber, but as the hollow leads not towards the centre of the cairn but rather across the eastern side, it probably was an adjunct to one of the shielings built on the side of the cairn. Numerous displaced slabs and blocks of considerable size appear on the summit, having been used in the construction of the later buildings; one

slab split through the centre, measuring 6 feet 3 inches long by 3 feet by 1 foot 3 inches, shows eight drill holes along one side.

Of the surrounding circle five stones remain, one being prostrate, and possibly some of these have been shifted. One on the eastern edge of the cairn, and placed obliquely to it, is 5 feet high, 3 feet 3 inches broad, and 1 foot 1 inch thick; two about 50 feet to the west of the cairn measure 3 feet 3 inches in height, 4 feet in breadth, and 9 inches in thickness, and 6 feet 6 inches in length, 4 feet in breadth, and 11 inches in thickness respectively, the latter being prostrate; the remaining two, standing on the northern arc at a distance of about 33 feet from the mound, are 2 feet 10 inches high, 5 feet 3 inches broad, and 1 foot 4 inches thick, and 2 feet 2 inches high, 2 feet 2 inches broad, and 1 foot 3 inches thick respectively.

One of the shielings on a mound about 25 feet to the north-west of the cairn is in a much better state of preservation than the generality of these structures. It is of rectangular shape with rounded corners measuring internally at the floor 9 feet from north to south and 6 feet from east to west. The drystone wall standing to a height of 4 feet tapers from a width of 2 feet 9 inches at the foundation to 1 foot 8 inches at the top and the gables rise about 2 feet higher than the wall head. There are two doorways almost opposite in the eastern and western walls, the east doorway having a width of 20 inches at the bottom, widening to 26 inches at the wall head, and the west doorway being rather narrower, 17 inches at the bottom and 23 inches at the top.

North Uist xxxiv (standing stone). 5 September 1914.

233. Segmented Cairn (ruined), South Clettraval.—About 400 yards south-east of the summit of South Clettraval and about 450 yards north-west of the chambered cairn (No. 234), at an elevation of about 400 feet above sea-level, is a fragment of a segmented cairn, the stones no doubt having been utilised in the construction of the dun (No. 178), which encroaches on the western side of the cairn. The whole of the mound has disappeared with the exception of a slight heap lying to the south of the megalithic long chamber which was

covered by the cairn and which has partly survived. Of this chamber and the entrance passage the western end slab, a stone 5 feet 2 inches in length, 3 feet in height, and 10 inches in thickness, and four of the slabs on the south side remain *in situ*, the south-western corner of the chamber being undisturbed; the side slabs reading from the west measure 8 feet 6 inches, 5 feet 5 inches, 4 feet 4 inches and 5 feet 6 inches in length respectively, the extreme slabs being 3 feet and 2 feet 9 inches in height. The chamber and passage, which run east-south-east and west-north-west, have been 30 feet in length, and, judging from the slab at the west end, the former has been about 5 feet in breadth at that part. Parallel to the most easterly side slab, and 2 feet to the north of it, the edge of a slab just appears above ground, possibly giving the width of the passage near its entrance. To the south is a displaced stone of considerable size.

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 9 September 1914.

234. Chambered Cairn (ruined), Tigh Cloiche, South Clettraval.—On the south-eastern slope of South Clettraval, some 750 yards north of Loch Vausary, at an elevation of about 225 feet above sea-level, is Tigh Cloiche, a ruined chambered cairn. What survives is a mere fragment of the mound with the remains of the chamber quite exposed. The cairn seems to have been of the circular variety with a diameter of at least 60 feet, but it is now an irregular mass of stones measuring some 56 feet from east to west, 53 feet from north to south, and 5 feet in height, with two detached heaps of stone lying on the south or lower side.

The chamber, which has been curvilinear with a diameter of possibly 9 feet, has been formed of slabs set on end, six or seven of these on the south and west remaining near their original position. The largest of these slabs on the south of the chamber stands 4 feet above the debris in which it is embedded, and measures 5 feet in width and 8 inches in thickness; its top stands 9 feet above the outer level on the south side of the cairn. Within the chamber are two large cover stones or perhaps one broken longitudinally in two; taken together they show a length of 8 feet 6 inches and a breadth of 7 feet 7 inches. The entrance pas-

sage is not traceable, but it seems to have run out from the chamber slightly to the north of east. A fine, large slab, 9 feet long, 3 feet 10 inches broad, and 11 inches thick, lying just outside the east of the chamber, which possibly may not have been disturbed, has the appearance of the inner lintel stone of the passage. Between it and the edge of the cairn and on the south-west and north slopes are many large slabs.

Some fragments of pottery were found by Dr. Beveridge on the floor of the chamber and the passage.¹

¹ *North Uist*, p. 252.

North Uist xxxiv. 9 September 1914.

235. Cairns, Striachcleite.—On the western slope about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of the Committee road from Sollas to Claddach Kyles and about $\frac{3}{8}$ mile due west of the summit of Ben Aulasary, at an elevation of 300 feet above sea-level, is a grass-covered mound of stones with ruined shielings, built out of the material of which it is composed, occupying the summit and western base. Probably a burial cairn, it is now oval in shape, the longer axis running west-north-west and east-south-east, along which it measures 47 feet, while it has a breadth of some 35 feet. It rises about 12 feet in height above the base of the lower side. At the foot of the northern slope of the cairn is a large slab 6 feet 9 inches long and 2 feet broad, while there are a number of smaller slabs lying about.

Farther down the hill where the slope becomes more gradual, about 170 yards west-south-west of the first cairn, is a circular cairn covered with grass also surmounted by ruined shielings. It is about 37 feet in diameter and 4 feet in height. On its western side a large slab set on end protrudes above the surface of the cairn. Some 35 yards to the north-west is another mound of about the same dimensions also crowned by the remains of shielings.

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 31 July 1914.

236. Cairn, Ard an Runair, Hougary.—Within 100 yards of the northern extremity of the peninsula of Ard an Runair, the most westerly point in North Uist, at an elevation of about 40 feet above sea-level, is a cairn overgrown with grass measuring 19 feet in

diameter and 4 feet in height. On this peninsula are many heaps of stone simulating small cairns, which seem to be only stones gathered off the land during cultivation.

North Uist xxxii (unnoted). 11 September 1914.

237. Chambered Cairn, Geirisclett.—On the high-water mark at the extremity of a small promontory on the eastern side of Geirisclett, the peninsula at the north-western corner of Vallay Strand, is a denuded chambered cairn with the ruins of more recent buildings on its summit. The chamber, roughly oblong in plan, which measures about 10 feet 3 inches in length and varies in width from 3 feet 7 inches at the western end to 4 feet 6 inches in the centre and 3 feet at the open eastern end, is formed by five large slabs set on edge, two on each of the north and south sides, and one at the inner end. Its main axis lies nearly east-north-east and west-south-west. The end slab and the one adjoining it on the south side stand 5 feet 4 inches and 5 feet in height respectively, while the other three slabs only attain a height of from 2 feet 3 inches to 2 feet 10 inches. The space intervening between the top of these lower slabs and the roof of the chamber has been filled by drystone building, a small portion composed of small blocks of stone remaining in position above the western slab on the north side. The floor has been paved throughout. Some 4 feet 8 inches from the back of the chamber the top of a slab, 2 feet 10 inches long and 9 inches thick, set on edge across the chamber appears just above the floor, and a somewhat similar but shorter slab is seen at the entrance to the chamber. Among the stones on the beach, under high-water mark, a regularly laid line of small blocks, apparently the outer limit of the cairn, can be traced for some distance round the east towards the north, at a distance varying from 7 feet 8 inches opposite the entrance chamber to about 20 feet opposite the northern wall of the chamber. From the outer curb there are slight indications of a narrow entrance passage running into the chamber. Several large slabs lie on the beach on the eastern slope of the cairn, notably one of roughly triangular shape measuring 12 feet 9 inches in length and 4 feet at its greatest width, which is deposited 3 feet 6 inches from

the open end of the chamber; another several feet to the north is 6 feet in length, and a third projecting over the northern wall of the chamber is 3 feet 7 inches long.

About 30 yards west of the cairn are two large slabs embedded in the ground about 10 feet in length by 2 feet 8 inches in breadth and 5 feet in length by 3 feet 1 inch in breadth respectively.

The highest part of the mound in its present dilapidated state is only 6 feet above high-water mark, and at high tides the water laps the chamber.

The chamber was cleared by Mr Beveridge, when several pieces of ornamented pottery, two vessels being represented, a flint scraper and a broken hammer stone, were found.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 29 July 1914.

238. Long Cairn, Barpa nam Feannag, Maari.—About 600 yards south of the base of the hill known as Maari is a long cairn, Barpa nam Feannag ("cairn of the hooded crows"), the surface of which has been considerably disturbed. It occupies a prominent position at the eastern end of a broad, flat-topped ridge, steep on its north, south and east boundaries, but sloping gently to Loch nan Geireann, or Geireann Mill Loch as it is more generally called, some 400 yards to the west. Except on the north and east margins the cairn is free of any covering of vegetation or peat. Its main axis lies almost west-north-west and east-south-east (305 mag.), along which it measures 165 feet. It is broader and higher at the eastern end, where it measures 46 feet in breadth and 8 feet in height; at the extreme eastern end it is probably a few feet wider, but at this part the edge of the cairn is obscured, and it is impossible to say whether the end is flat or curved. Some 84 feet from this end it contracts to a width of 21 feet and a height of 2 feet, and the western extension over a length of 81 feet has an average width of 19 feet and maintains a height of about 2 feet. (Fig. 139.)

There is no appearance of a boundary line of large blocks on the edge of the cairn.

Near the centre of the eastern and higher end is a large, flat slab, at least 6 feet in length, 3 feet in breadth and 14 inches thick, having all the appearance of the outer lintel of a passage,

but although there is a cavity beneath there is no appearance of walling. At a distance of 5 feet 9 inches from the outside edge of this slab towards the interior of the cairn, but placed at an angle to the south of the medial line, the top of a large slab set on edge, 7 feet 3 inches long and 11 inches thick, protrudes 3 feet 6 inches above the surface of the stones. Some 26 feet north of the centre of the flat slab is a similar stone reclining against the north-eastern edge of the structure and measuring 5 feet in length, 4 feet in breadth and 1 foot 3 inches in thickness.

North Uist xxxv. 4 August 1914.

HUT CIRCLES.

239. Hut Circles, Dru Iar, Hula Geo, Foshigary.—At the west side of Dru Iar, on the southern slope of a slightly rising headland, are two hut circles, 30 feet apart and measuring 9 feet in diameter internally, formed of blocks of stone up to 15 inches in height. The circle to the west shows an entrance 1 foot 3 inches wide towards the south-east, and the other a similar entrance towards the south-west. About 70 yards up the slope of Ben Scolpaig, and about 30 feet higher, is another hut circle, oval in shape and measuring 10 feet by 8 feet.

North Uist xxix (unnoted). 29 July 1914.

240. Hut Circles and Cave, Crogary na Hoe, Portain.—At the foot of a precipice to the south and west of the summit of Crogary na Hoe, the hill at the extreme north-eastern point of North Uist, at an elevation of 400 feet above sea-level, is a small cave or rock-shelter about 10 feet square and barely 3 feet high. Some 12 feet in front of the recess on the north and east sides of a tumbled mass of rock are two hut circles, the most northerly measuring some 6 feet in diameter, and the other, which lies some 10 feet to the south-east, about 8 feet across. The latter is more clearly defined and shows an entrance from the south-east 1 foot 6 inches wide. In a cavity under the rock which forms the western part of the latter structure are a mass of limpet shells and a few animal bones. No pottery was seen.

North Uist xxxii (unnoted). 22 July 1914.

CIRCLES AND STANDING STONES.

241. Stone Circle (?), Beinn a Chaolais, Port nan Long.—On the summit of the southern extension of Beinn a Chaolais, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south-south-east of Port nan Long, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, are two standing stones and four prostrate stones forming an irregular circle about 60 feet in diameter. The two erect stones face the interior and occupy the northern arc of the circle and measure 1 foot 11 inches in height by 3 feet 1 inch in breadth and 2 feet 3 inches in height by 3 feet 1 inch in breadth respectively; three of the prostrate stones are placed on the western and southern arcs and measure 3 feet 6 inches by 16 inches, 3 feet by 3 feet, and 3 feet 9 inches by 2 feet respectively, while another towards the north-east is a rounded boulder 1 foot 11 inches across. In front of it towards the interior of the circle is a block of similar size and shape.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted). 15 August 1914.

242. Standing Stone, Marrogh.—At an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level, near the foot of the south-south-eastern slope of Marrogh, about 110 yards south-west of the chambered cairn (No. 225), is a standing stone, which from a triangular base, 7 feet 10 inches in girth, contracts concavely and terminates in a sharp point at the top. It stands 3 feet 1 inch in height.

North Uist xxxiv. (unnoted). 29 July 1915.

243. Standing Stones, Crois Mhic Jamain, Port nan Long.—About 400 yards south-west of Port nan Long, near the base of the south-eastern slope of Suenish, are two grass-covered impinging mounds raised on the highest extremity of a slight rocky ridge, and lying north-east and south-west. They each measure some 24 feet in diameter and rise about 4 feet above the general level of the ground. On the summit of each hillock is a small standing stone, the distance between them being 18 feet 6 inches. The stone to the south-west is a rectangular slab measuring 3 feet in height, 1 foot 10 inches in breadth, and 6 inches in thickness, while the other is an irregular block 1 foot 7 inches in height, and 5 feet in girth.

North Uist xxxi. 13 August 1914.

244.—Stone Circle (very doubtful), Bogach Maari.—On Bogach Maari, about midway between Barpa nam Feannag (No. 239) and Maari, at an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level, is a grass-covered mound measuring about 55 feet from east to west and 35 feet from north to south, and rising from 3 feet to 6 feet above the surrounding ground, with three large shapeless blocks of stone from 4 feet 6 inches to 5 feet 6 inches long and about the same breadth and thickness on the north-west margin, one 5 feet long partially buried in the soil on the east side, and another 5 feet 6 inches in length and 4 feet 9 inches in breadth on the southern margin. Several others lie on the western edge and on the slopes of the mound; the latter, being almost buried in the soil, have the appearance of earthfast stones or outcrops.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted). 4 August 1914.

245. Stone setting, Rudha na Traghad, Port nan Long.—On a wind-swept, sandy slope on the east side of the bay and some 400 yards east of Port nan Long, is a considerable quantity of displaced stones, amongst which are a number of small slabs set on end. Two of the latter, measuring 2 feet 3 inches in height by 2 feet 5 inches in length and 1 foot 11 inches in height by 2 feet in length, are placed in line facing a similar stone, 2 feet 6 inches high by 2 feet long, some 8 feet to the east. Stretching up the slope from the last slab, towards the north-north-east over a distance of 35 feet 6 inches, are a number of smaller boulders and three smaller slabs set on end in line, while some 14 feet to the south lower down the hill is the outer foundation course of a curved stone wall which seems to have encircled the structure. Immediately outside this wall is a hearth of burnt sandy clay, and the whole site is covered by a slight sprinkling of kitchen midden refuse and broken pottery.

Upon the sandy slope at Rudha na Traghad Dr Beveridge found a small cist, apparently not more than 2 feet in length, containing an inverted urn 6 inches high and widening from 4½ inches to 5¼ inches. The base of the urn is crudely ornamented. Close to the urn was a disc of stone which would fit the mouth.¹

¹ *North Uist*, p. 268.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted) 15 August 1914.

246. Standing Stones, Na Fir Bhreige, Blashaval.—Along the summit of a ridge which slopes down gently from Blashaval in a north-westerly direction towards Loch Veiragvat, some 2½ miles north-west of Lochmaddy, at an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level, are three standing stones, Na Fir Bhreige ("the false men"), deeply embedded in peat. The stones are placed almost in a straight line running west by north and east by south, the central stone being about 1 foot north of the axial line. The latter stone, which is a broad, thin pillar, the face lying in the line of the other two, shows a height of 1 foot 9 inches above ground and measures 3 feet 1 inch broad and 7 inches thick, while it is sunk at least 3 feet 6 inches under the surface of the peat. The eastern pillar, which is placed some 85 feet higher up the slope, is 2 feet 3 inches high above ground, 1 foot 6 inches wide on its broadest face, and is sunk more than 2 feet in peat. The western pillar lies 109 feet down the hill from the central stone and measures 1 foot 10 inches in height above ground, over 2 feet 6 inches below ground, 12 inches in breadth and 10 inches in thickness.

According to tradition these stones represent three Skye men, who, having deserted their wives, were turned into stone by a witch.

North Uist xxxv. 4 August 1914.

247. Ultach Fhinn, Craonaval.—On the southern shoulder of Craonaval, where the last ascent to the summit begins to get easier after a sharp rise, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, and overlooking Loch Caravat, which lies some 300 yards to the south, is a huge, prostrate pillar of stone known as Ultach Fhinn ("Fionn's armful"), measuring 22 feet 3 inches in length. Across the lower end, where it is broadest, it measures 6 feet 1 inch, with a thickness of some 16 inches; it narrows and thickens towards the opposite extremity, where the measurements show a breadth of 4 feet 4 inches and thickness of 2 feet 6 inches. The stone rests in a hollow clear of the soil on several of the small blocks of stone with which the cavity is filled. There is every indication that this monolith has been moved by the hands of man. Some 9 feet to the west there is a quantity of small blocks of stone very like a ruined shieling.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 17 August 1915.

248. **Stone Circle, Carinish.**—About 1 mile east of the U.F. Church at Carinish, on a flat, elevated plateau standing over 50 feet above sea-level, is a ruined stone circle measuring some 136 feet from east to west, and 128 feet from north to south. The circle has consisted of at least sixteen stones, of which ten, either broken, badly tilted, or prostrate, remain, and the positions of the others are indicated by the smaller blocks which have been packed round their bases. Eleven appear on the northern semicircle and five on the south. The best stone lies prostrate at the extreme east among a number of smaller blocks, and it measures some 8 feet in length, 2 feet in breadth, and 1 foot 6 inches in thickness; the next largest stone measures 6 feet in length, and lies on the north-western arc, and the only stone which may be said to be partially erect is placed on the southern arc, and measures some 3 feet 2 inches in height, and 3 feet 6 inches in breadth.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 9 August 1915.

249. **Stone Circle (Sornach Coir' Fhinn), Loch a Phobuill.**—About 140 yards east of Loch a Phobuill, a small loch lying about 1 mile south-east of Clachan a Luib, near the base of the gentle north-western slope of Craonaval, at an elevation of under 50 feet above sea-level, is the stone circle marked Sornach Coir Fhinn on O.S. map, though locally known as Sornach a Phobuill.¹ This circle is slightly oval, measuring 130 feet in diameter from north-west to south-east, and 115 feet from north-east to south-west. Its circuit is marked by a slight bank in which thirteen erect stones can be counted; of these eleven stand from 1 foot to 2 feet 3 inches in height above the peat that has grown around them. The other two stones, one on the east, a thin, pointed pillar, shows a height of 5 feet, a breadth at the present exposed base of 3 feet, and a thickness of 10 inches; the other stone, on the north-west, which stands in the hollow of a moss-hag, shows a height of 3 feet 7 inches and a girth of 7 feet 5 inches. Eight stones appear on the north-western quadrant (six of them in a length of 45 feet), three on the south-west, one on the south-east, and the largest stone on the east. Probably more stones would be found by cutting away the peat, because if the circle had been completed with the relative

number of stones along its whole circumference, as appear on the north-west, over fifty would have been required.

¹ Beveridge's *North Uist*, pp. 259-60.

North Uist xxxix. 5 August 1915.

250. **Stone Circle, Pobull Fhinn,¹ Ben Langass.**—This circle occupies a small plateau, some 50 feet above sea-level, on the southern slope of Ben Langass, about 450 yards east-south-east of Langass Lodge, and about 100 yards north of Loch Langass, one of the inner arms of Loch Eport. The setting of stones is oval, measuring some 122 feet from east to west,

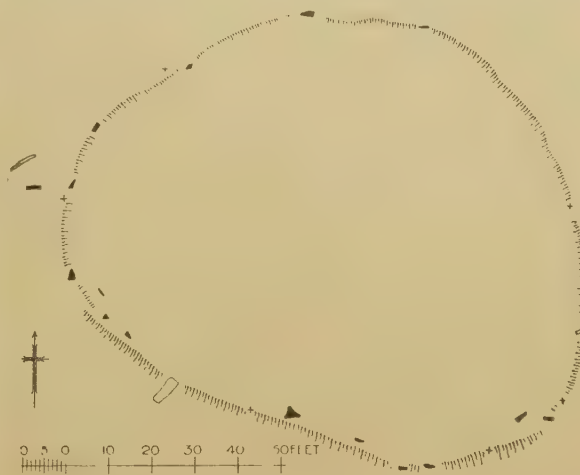


FIG. 141.—Stone Circle, Pobull Fhinn (No. 250).

and 100 feet from north to south. The area enclosed by the circle has been partly levelled by excavation to a depth of some 4 feet on the northern side, and a slight bank of earth with some stones in it has been erected along the southern side on the edge of the plateau and round the ends. The standing stones as a rule are placed on the outer edge of this bank, and against the face of the slight scarp on the northern side. About twenty-four pillars and boulders can be counted in the ring of the circle, eight on the northern, and sixteen on the southern half, but a considerable length of the north-eastern segment is devoid of stones.

¹ Locally known as Sornach Coir Fhinn, but this name erroneously applied by O. S. to No. 249. (Beveridge's *North Uist*, p. 259.)

Of the existing stones fourteen are clearly of the type seen in stone circles; one is completely prostrate, two nearly so, and the others erect. They vary from 3 feet to 4 feet 10 inches in height. The remaining ten stones are smaller boulders and small pillars set on end. The prostrate stone, a very irregular pillar lying on the south-west, measures 7 feet 8 inches in length, 2 feet 6 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 10 inches in thickness. Some 4 feet within the eastern end of the circle is a thin monolith, roughly oval in shape, and pointed at the top. It is the best stone of the group and measures 6 feet 9 inches in height, 3 feet 2 inches in breadth, and 1 foot in thickness. Outside the western arc of the circle are two stones, an overthrown pillar 7 feet 2 inches in length, and 1 foot 6 inches in width, and a standing stone tilted towards the south-east 3 feet 9 inches high, 3 feet 10 inches broad, and 1 foot thick. The former, which lies 9 feet 9 inches from the ring of the circle, lies in a line pointing north-east, and the latter, which stands some 2 feet 4 inches to the south-east of the former, is 7 feet 4 inches distant from the nearest stone in the circle. (Fig. 140.)

North Uist xl. 28 July 1915.

251. Stone Circle, Cringraival, Clachan-a-luib.—Towards the western end of the summit of Cringraival, near Clachan, about 460 yards west-south-west of the ruined chambered cairn (No. 229), at an elevation of about 100 feet above sea-level, are the remains of a stone circle exposed through the removal of peat, which is about 3 feet deep at this place. The eastern half of the circle has been laid bare, and possibly some of the stones on its western half may still be hid under the peat which has not been cut. The diameter of the circle is about 120 feet.

Seven stones survive, of which only three remain erect (one alone being upright), and of the four prostrate examples one has been roughly dressed for a lintel, but has not been removed. The highest of the erect stones stands on the east of the circle and measures 4 feet 1 inch in height, 5 feet 3 inches in girth at the base, expanding to 6 feet 9 inches near the top; the two other pillars to the north-east and south are 2 feet 3 inches high, 2 feet 9 inches wide, and 7 inches thick, and 3 feet high, 3 feet 6 inches wide, and 9 inches thick

respectively, while the largest prostrate stone measures 5 feet 10 inches in length and 4 feet 10 inches in breadth.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 12 September 1914.

252. Standing Stone, Clach Mhor a Ché, West Ford.—Near West Ford, within 20 yards of the shore and about 10 feet above high-water mark, some 18 yards north of and facing the ruined cairn (No. 231), is a fine standing stone, Clach Mhor a Ché. Of regular width and pointed slightly at the top on the west side, it measures 8 feet 2 inches in height, 3 feet 11 inches in width, and 1 foot 4 inches in thickness. (Fig. 135.)

North Uist xxxix. 5 September 1914.

253. Standing Stone, Clach Bharnach Bhraodag, Beinn a' Charra.—Near the summit of Beinn a' Charra, the south-western extension of Marrival, about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles north-east of Claddach Kyles and some 400 yards east of the road to Sollas, at an elevation of rather more than 200 feet above sea-level, commanding a fine view of the Heisker Islands to the west and the western shore of the Hebrides as far south as the hills of Barra, is a massive standing stone obtusely pointed at the top and facing the south-south-east, in which direction the top inclines forward about 3 feet beyond the base. It is known as Clach Bharnach Bhraodag ("limpet stone of Freya"). The stone measures 9 feet 3 inches in height above the surface of the surrounding peat, 6 feet 6 inches in breadth and 2 feet 6 inches in thickness at most. On the south-east side of the stone, where the peat has been removed and the hole filled with water, the stone descends at least 2 feet 6 inches below the surface.

North Uist xxxiv. 5 September 1914.

254. Standing Stone, Loch na Buaile Iochdrach.—About 12 yards from the north-east corner of Loch na Buaile Iochdrach, a small loch at the southern base of Uineval, and about 100 yards south-east of four green, grass-covered mounds occupied by shielings, is a small standing stone 3 feet 2 inches high, 2 feet 3 inches broad, and 11 inches thick.

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 8 September 1914.

255. Standing Stones (Fir Bhreige), Toroghas.—At an elevation of 230 feet above sea-level, on the southern slope of Toroghas, about 800 yards north of Loch Leac Mhic Gille-bhrìde, are two standing stones, Fir Bhreige, 39 yards apart in a line running nearly east and west, embedded for more than 3 feet in peat. The stone to the east is a broad monolith showing above the peat a height of 2 feet 4 inches, a breadth of 3 feet 8 inches, and a thickness of 1 foot 3 inches; the other stone, an irregular prism, stands 3 feet 10 inches above the water which has collected in the hollow dug round it, and at the surface of the water is 7 feet 1 inch in girth.

Around the stones the peat assumes a domical formation, 25 feet in diameter and 2 feet above the general surface.

North Uist xxxiv. 9 September 1914.

256. Standing Stone, South Cleittraval.—On the south slope of South Cleittraval, about 250 yards west-north-west of the ruined chambered cairn (No. 234), at an elevation of 290 feet above sea-level, is a standing stone 4 feet 9 inches in height, 3 feet 1 inch in breadth, and 2 feet 7 inches in thickness, with a considerable growth of peat surrounding its base.

North Uist xxxiv. 9 September 1914.

257. Standing Stone, Balelone.—Some 30 yards west of Balelone farmhouse is a broken standing stone. The stump of the pillar, which is of triangular section at the base, still stands in its original position, and measures 5 feet in height, and 6 feet 10 inches in girth at the base. The broken portion which lies beside it is 4 feet 10 inches in length. The stone has thus showed a height of some 9 feet 10 inches above ground before it was broken.

North Uist xxix (unnoted). 16 August 1915.

258. Standing Stones, Leac nan Cailleachan Dubha, Vallay.—A short distance above the south-eastern shore of Vallay and to the east of Teampull Mhuir (No. 167) are two standing stones, Leac nan Cailleachan Dubha, 19 inches apart, placed almost in a line running north and south, the broader aspects of which face the east. The most northerly slab measures

5 feet 8 inches above ground, 4 feet in breadth, and 9 inches in thickness, and its neighbour is 4 feet 5 inches in height, 3 feet 1 inch in width, and 9 inches in thickness.

Local tradition says these stones were erected on the spot where two women, who had been caught in the act of milking cows which did not belong to them, were put to death and buried. The name means "flat stone of the black women" or nuns.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 28 July 1914.

259. Standing Stone, Boreray.—On the edge of the rocks on the shore below the church, in the island of Boreray, is a standing stone measuring 4 feet 10 inches in height from the top to the base, which is partially exposed, 2 feet 10 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 9 inches in height. It tapers slightly towards the top. Some 4 feet 5 inches to the north is a prostrate stone 6 feet 3 inches in length, 3 feet 3 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 8 inches in thickness.

North Uist xxvi (unnoted). 11 August 1915.

CUP-MARKED STONES.

260. Cup-marked Rock, Teampull na Trionaid, Carinish.—On the summit of a rocky knoll, some 20 yards north of Teampull na Trionaid (No. 160), at Carinish, are two cup-marks, 4 inches in diameter, and 1 inch and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches deep, respectively, cut 8 inches apart, on a small outcrop of rock, and lying in a line running almost due north and south ($17\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ mag.).

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 13 August 1915.

261. Cup-marked Stone, Balelone.—In the garden at Balelone a small cup-marked block of stone, measuring about 18 inches by 14 inches, found near the cup-marked rock at Ard a Mhorain, is preserved. On the rounded top of the boulder are five cup-marks varying from $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches in diameter and $\frac{7}{8}$ inch in depth to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter and $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in depth. Four of the cups are placed so as to form an irregular lozenge, near the centre of which is placed the fifth.

North Uist xxix (unnoted). 16 August 1915.

262. Cup-marked Stone, Buaile Risary.—Towards the east side of the steep northern

slope of the green grass-covered knoll, Buaille Risary, the site of a dun (No. 193) about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of Ben Risary, at an elevation of about 200 feet above sea-level, is a large irregularly shaped stone slab, 4 feet 5 inches long, and 2 feet 4 inches broad at its widest part, bearing at least seven cup-marks on the upper surface, which is much weathered. Three of the cup-marks measure from $2\frac{1}{4}$ to $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter and from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in depth, while the others vary from $1\frac{1}{4}$ to 2 inches in diameter and are barely $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in depth.

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 30 July 1914.

263. Cup-marked Rock, Vallay.—About 400 yards due west of Vallay house, in a grass field, is a flat, much weathered outcrop of rock, with ten cup-marks on the surface. Two of the cups are of large size, measuring $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches and 4 inches in diameter and $1\frac{7}{8}$ inches and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth, two are $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch, and the others vary from $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter and from $\frac{5}{8}$ inch to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in depth.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 1 August 1914.

264. Cup-marks, Tigh na Croise, Middle-quarter, Sollas.—In the township of Middle-quarter, Sollas, about 700 yards north-west of the school, is a crofter's house from time immemorial known as Tigh na Croise ("house of the cross"), but now sometimes called Crosshill. Immediately to the west of the byre of the steading is an outcrop of rock with vertical sides and flattish top, measuring 4 feet in height, 12 feet in length and 7 feet in breadth. At one time it is said that an incised cross could be traced on the north-western face of this rock, which consequently was called Clach na Croise ("stone of the cross"). As the stone is much weathered the cross has disappeared. On the top of the rock near the northern side, however, is a group of four cup-markings, one $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth, and the others 3 inches in diameter and $\frac{7}{8}$ inch deep.

Incised on the north-east face of the stone are three rings, two circular and one kidney-shaped, which may be natural.

Behind the rock to the south on a lower outcrop are two, possibly five, other cup-marks, the undoubted examples measuring 3 inches

and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 10 September 1914.

265. Cup-marked Rocks, Ard a Mhorain.—Some 28 feet south-east of the cross (No. 165) at Ard a Mhorain, on the pebbly beach under high-water mark, are two impinging parallel ridges of rock outcropping through the shingle, showing a length of 3 feet 2 inches and 4 feet 2 inches and a breadth of about 1 foot. On the western shorter ridge are at least eight cup-marks, four in an irregular line near the apex of the rock and four placed lozenge-wise at the northern end, while about a dozen occupy the line of the ridge of the parallel rock. The cups vary from $3\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and from $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in depth.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 17 August 1914.

EARTH-HOUSES.

266. Earth-house, Screvan.—At Screvan, about 600 yards north-east of Port nan Long, on the brow of the steep brae rising from the shore, over 50 feet above sea-level, is the site of an earth-house. The building has collapsed, and the site is marked by a circular hollow with some stones lying about, from which a depression extends down the slope towards the north-west. Small fragments of hand-made pottery were noted.

The earth-house was partially excavated in 1887, when it was discovered that the entrance, which consisted of a short curved stair, gave access to a long, low, narrow passage leading into a circular chamber, the roof of which fell in, stopping further excavation.

North Uist xxvi (unnoted). 15 August 1914.

267. Earth-house, Tigh Talamhant, Loch Hacklett, Portain.—On a narrow shelf of land lying between the base of a precipice on the western side of Loch Hacklett and the edge of the loch is an earth-house, Tigh Talamhant, now the abode of otters. The structure, built of drystone walls surmounted by lintel stones, is considerably dilapidated, and can now be entered at a break in the roof towards the southern end and by a gap in the side about 14 feet

from the northern end. As it stands at present the earth-house consists of a long narrow gallery, about 40 feet in length, with its ends, which, though now blocked with fallen stones, were probably entrances, looking out to the loch above water-level. From the northern extremity the gallery is carried towards the precipice in a curve trending west and south for about 5 feet, whence it then follows a south-easterly course in a straight line almost parallel to the loch for a distance of some 12 feet, after which it recurves to the west towards the precipice for about 9 feet, where the large break in the roof about 5 feet long occurs. From this point there has possibly been an extension of the gallery towards the precipice, but this feature is obscured by fallen debris. The southern extension from this place towards the loch can be penetrated only for a length of about 9 feet, during which there is a dip in the gallery of about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet. At its best preserved part the gallery is about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide and from $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet to 3 feet in height. About $5\frac{1}{4}$ feet from the present northern end is a break back on the west wall extending about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet, doubtless to accommodate a stone slab used as a door to block the passage.

The earth-house occupies a very inaccessible position, the pathway from the top of the rock being steep and difficult, and is covered by a growth of several feet of moss and peat.

North Uist xxxvi (Erd House). 22 July 1914.

268. Earth-house (site of), Druim na h-Uamha, Balranald.—At the east side of the main road at Druim na h-Uamha, near Balranald, some 400 yards south-east of the Parish Church of North Uist, is an earth-house which has been partly excavated and then filled up. No trace of it is now to be seen.

North Uist xxxiii (unnoted). 16 August 1915.

269. Earth-house, Cnoc a Comhdhalach, Vallay Strand.—About 400 yards north of Loch nan Clachan, and about 30 yards west of Vallay Strand near its south-western corner, was a green mound locally known as Cnoc a Comhdhalach. This was excavated in 1905 and 1907 by Mr Beveridge, and was found to contain a circular earth-house divided into compartments by radial walls. On excavation

the inner face of the wall showed an average height of about 4 feet 6 inches, the internal diameter of the structure measuring some 24 feet from east to west and 22 feet 6 inches from north to south. The wall towards the south-west measured 9 feet 6 inches in thickness and about 7 feet on the opposite side. It is entered by a long entrance passage on the eastern side, measuring about 20 feet in length, the walls on either side reaching a height of 3 and 4 feet. At the outer entrance, which faces the north-east, the passage is almost 3 feet wide. For 10 feet inwards it follows a south-westerly course, then curves sharply towards the west, entering the central chamber about the middle of its eastern side. The passage varies considerably in width, the widest part at the bend measuring as much as 50 inches and the narrowest part, which is a few feet nearer the inside, being only 26 inches. In the south wall of the passage, at the widest part where it makes the curve, a staircase of five narrow roughly-built steps rises from the floor. It measures 21 inches in width and rises about 27 inches in height. The passage has apparently been roughly paved from the outside to about 7 feet within the staircase, where a slab set on edge projects about 8 inches above the floor. This sill is flanked on either side of its interior by stone jambs, apparently checks for a door which opened towards the inside. There is a second entrance in the south-west part of the building, which measures about 2 feet 8 inches across the inner end. It expands slightly towards the outside, but at about a distance of 2 feet it is suddenly contracted by a pair of jambs placed 23 inches apart, this opening having probably been closed by a door opening from the inside like that on the opposite entrance. The wall forming the north side of this entrance continues in a straight line for a length of about $9\frac{1}{2}$ feet through the main structure of the wall, but the southern wall has a wide splay outwards, making an exterior opening of over 8 feet in width. This entrance seems to have been paved, and where it enters the interior its floor stands about a foot higher than that of the main building. When excavated this doorway was found to be carefully built up.

Within the thickness of the wall on the north side of the last entrance the complete

outline of an irregularly shaped oval chamber, measuring 6 feet from east to west and 5 feet 3 inches from north to south, was traceable. It seemed to have had a domical roof. Within the wall to the north of the oval chamber there seems to have been a narrow gallery about 24 inches wide, which extends almost to the most northerly point of the structure. The building of this part is poor, the outer shell of the wall being barely 2 feet in width. There seems to have been another small curvilinear cell within the wall immediately adjoining the northern termination of the gallery just described, but no indication of an access to this was noticed.

The interior of the earth-house is divided into six compartments by six radial walls and a prolongation of the southern wall of the eastern entrance passage. The radial walls vary from 4 to 5 feet in length and from 15 to 30 inches in width, and average about 4 feet in height. They are so placed as to leave an open space about 11 feet in diameter in the centre of the interior court, and they stop short about 20 to 33 inches from the inner face of the main wall. The space between the radial walls and the main wall has been lintelled over, as two lintels remain in position at the south-east, and one on each of the radials in the north-eastern sector. Apparently the space between the inner ends of the radiating walls had been closed by slabs set on end, the three compartments on the north showing each the slab in position. The chambers so formed are thus voussoir-shaped and intercommunicate by the open space left between the radial walls and the main wall of the building.

From the compartment immediately to the south of the main entrance a doorway, 32 inches high and 18 inches wide, roofed by a single lintel stone, leads into an oval cell measuring about 5 feet in length within the thickness of the building, and immediately to the east of this and still within the thickness of the wall on the south side of the entrance passage are slight indications of two further narrow oval cells. Almost in the centre of the building a rectangular hearth, measuring 2 feet 10 inches by 1 foot 7 inches, bordered by flat stones, still remains on the floor. Immediately to the north-east of the earth-house indeterminate foundations of another structure, apparently

divided into narrow rectangular compartments, were exposed.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 28 June 1915.

270. Earth-house, Eilean Maleit, Vallay Strand.—Near the south-west edge of Vallay Strand, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of Cnoc a Comhdhalach and 30 yards from the shore, is a tidal islet connected with the mainland by a causeway



FIG. 142.—Earth-house, Eilean Maleit (No. 270).

about 5 feet in width. The islet stands about 12 feet in height above the Strand, its northern face being steep and rocky. There are slight indications of a wall along the southern edge from which it is accessible. Part of the summit of the islet is occupied by the remains of a circular structure divided internally by radial walls as in the neighbouring earth-house at Cnoc a Comhdhalach (No. 269). The circular interior area measures about 24 feet in diameter, and is surrounded by a wall varying from 5 to 12 feet in width. The internal court

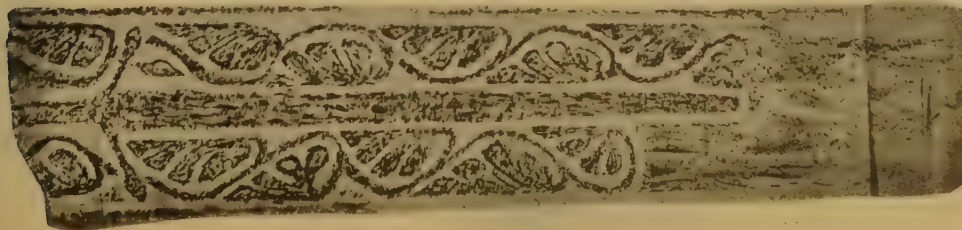


FIG. 143 Rodil.



FIG. 144—Rodil.



FIG. 145—Rodil.



FIG. 146—Cille-bharra.



FIG. 147—Cille-bharra.



FIG. 148 Cille-bharra.

CARVED SLABS FROM ST. CLEMENT'S CHURCH, RODIL (No. 111) AND CILLE-BHARRA (No. 43⁵).

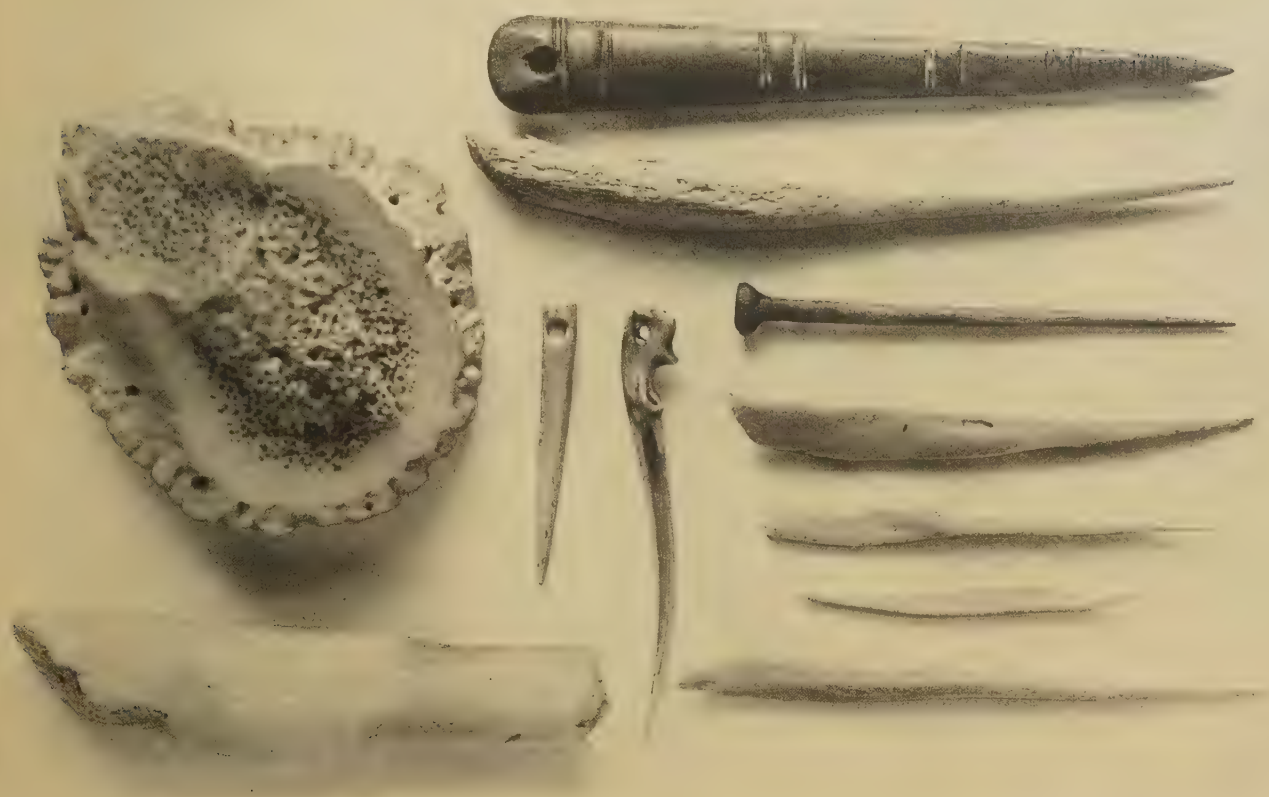


FIG. 149—Bone Implements from earth-house, Udal (No. 273).

(From photo by Erskine Beveridge.)

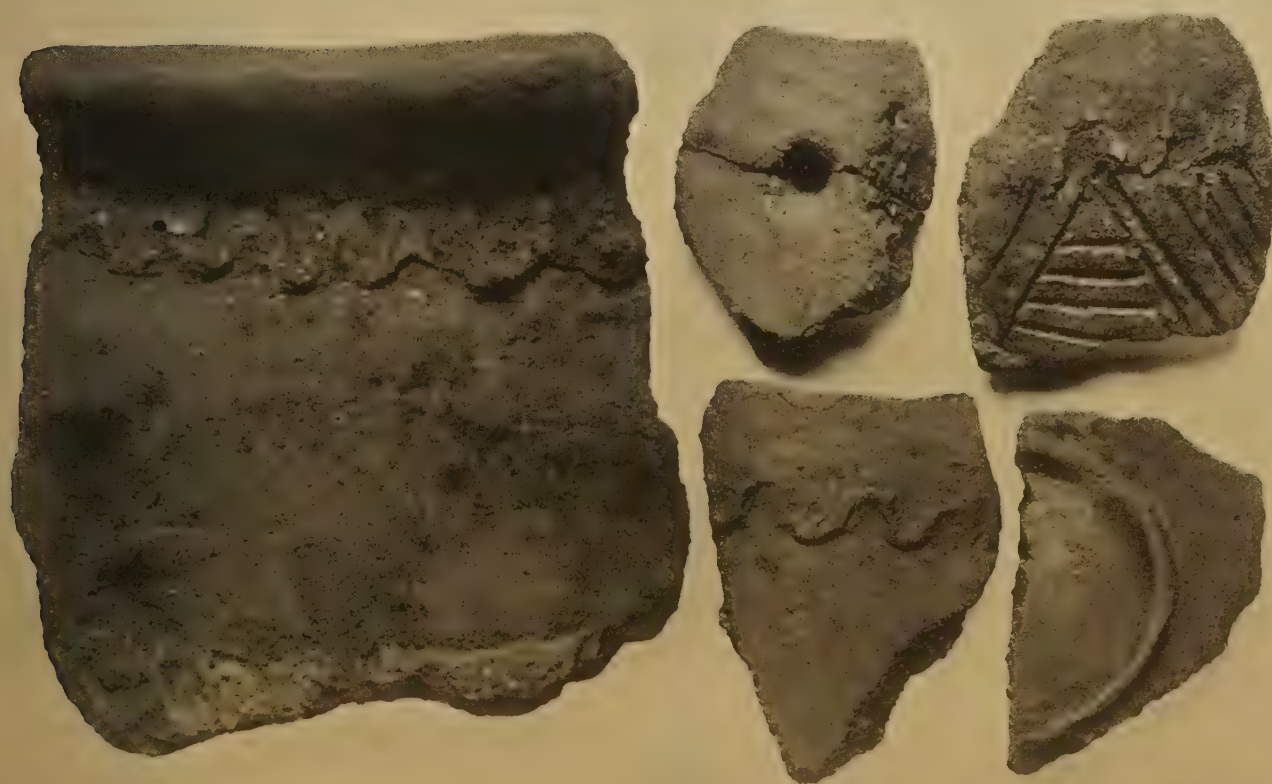


FIG. 150—Pottery from earth-house, Eilean Maleit (No. 270).

(From photo by Erskine Beveridge.)

has been divided into at least eight compartments by short radial walls leaving an irregular oval space in the centre about 12 feet at most in length. Within the southern arc are three short radiating walls each stopping short before the outer wall is reached. On the west two short parallel walls project towards the interior. On the northern arc there are two intercommunicating chambers formed by radiating walls, but these differ from the chambers on the opposite side as the inner ends are built up.

The main entrance to the structure has been to the north-west. It is slightly curved and measures 14 feet in length by about 2 feet 9 inches in width. There seem to have been two other entrances, one from the north and the other from the west, apparently built through additions to the main building. Within this thickening of the wall on the south-west, seven irregularly shaped cells have been built, of which four measure from 3 to 4 feet across while the others extend to a length of from 6 to 12 feet. Each of the larger cells is provided with a narrow doorway from the exterior. The addition on the north side is traversed by the tortuous southern entrance, which measures from 1½ to 2 feet in width. In its course it passes through an irregular oblong chamber measuring about 12 feet in length and 6 feet in width, and then through two smaller cells measuring about 3 to 4 feet in width. Pottery on Fig. 150.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 28 June 1914.

271. Earth-house, Bac Mhic Connain.—Rather more than ½ mile north-west of Vallay House

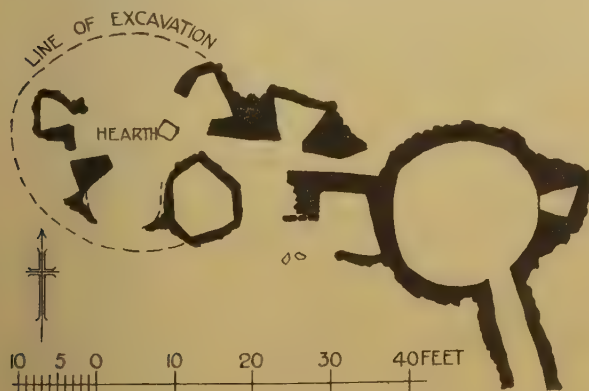


FIG. 151.—Earth-house, Bac Mhic Connain (No. 271).

a structure covered with sand was excavated in 1919 by Dr Erskine Beveridge. The walls

stand for only a few courses, and the place has been silted up a good deal since the excavation was made. It was then found necessary also to fill in some of the compartments, as the stone work was caving in. In its present state the structure shows an unsymmetrical set of apartments, with one large circular room to the east, apparently at a higher level than the other apartments. In the western set was a hearth. For relics, including a bone with Oghams, see *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, LVI., pp. 12-13.

North Uist xxx. 17 July 1924.

272. Earth-house, Machair Leathann.—Upon Machair Leathann, ½ mile north of Middle-quarter and Sollas, is the site of an earth-house, which was investigated many years ago by the late Dr Erskine Beveridge, but of which no traces are now apparent above ground. It was found that the structure comprised fourteen radial chambers, arranged side by side so as to form an irregular circle with an outer diameter ranging from 34 to 37 feet, and enclosing an interior area which measured from 22 to 25 feet across at different parts. There have been two entrances; one by a low and narrow access through a supplementary oval chamber on the east; and the other, of much larger dimensions, communicating directly with what seems to have been an outer courtyard on the south. (Fig. 13.)

For a detailed description of the structure cf. Dr Beveridge's *N. Uist*, pp. 121-9.

North Uist xxx (unnoted).

273. Earth-houses (ruined), Udal.—Amongst the sand dunes on the western side of the peninsula extending north-east from Sollas, at Udal about 2½ miles north of Sollas, are four large sand dunes, the slopes of which are covered with kitchen midden refuse, consisting of shells, animal bones and fragments of hand-made pottery. At different places on the slopes are quantities of stones, dislodged by wind denudation, apparently the ruins of earth-houses.

On the north-western slope of the most northerly mound the only building traceable is a curved section of the foundation of a wall with two other walls running inwards some 6 feet towards the centre, forming the outer part of a chamber 9 feet wide at the exterior end and narrowing towards the interior. About 30

feet to the east there is a considerable quantity of iron slag amongst the fallen stones. On the south side of the mound a length of 8 feet of a curved wall is exposed, and near this were found a piece of flint and part of an axe of red sandstone used as a hammer stone, with slight parallel grooves on one side, apparently made by sharpening pins. Other relics on Fig. 149.

About 40 yards to the south is the second mound at the west side, where amongst fallen stones the curve of a wall measuring 24 feet across the chord, apparently with a curved entrance passage 2 feet 4 inches wide and traceable for some 6 feet, is visible.

The third mound lies about 50 yards south-west of the last, and shows a large quantity of fallen stones on the western slope. To the north-west a section of curved walling 6 feet long and 3 feet high, with a short length of a radial wall running into the sandhill, is noticeable. To the south of this on the western side the earth-house partly excavated some years ago still remains in view. Though much of the building has fallen, the S-shaped entrance and part of the wall on either side of its inner end can be traced. On the south side of the hill is the southern arc of a curved wall showing a diameter of 38 feet.

On the fourth and most westerly hill the southern slope shows many displaced stones, the only part in position being on the south-west, where a small portion of a curved wall is visible.

Some of the kitchen midden deposits measure up to 1 foot in thickness and are evidently of later date than the earth-houses, as in places they overlap the buildings.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 17 August 1914.

274. Earth-house, Druim na h-Uamha.—The site of this earth-house, which lies about 300 yards west of Vallaquie at a place known as Druim na h-Uamha ("ridge of the cave"), is now recognised by a sandy hollow in the surface of a mound with some kitchen midden refuse scattered about. When excavated in 1871 it was found to be a curved gallery of regular outline, measuring 20 feet in length, from 5 feet 8 inches at the floor to 4 feet 8 inches at the roof in breadth, and reaching a maximum height of 7 feet. The entrance passage was from the south, and entered the gallery near the centre

of its southern wall through a doorway 2 feet 10 inches high and from 2 feet 10 inches at the bottom to 2 feet 2 inches at the top in width.

See *Anthropological Journal*, 1872, p. 272.

North Uist xxxi. 12 August 1914.

(For buried examples see *Introd.*, p. xlii.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

275. Viking Burials, Carnan Mhor, Otternish.

—On the brow of the hill rising some 30 feet above Rudh' a Charnain Mhoir, the north-west corner of the Otternish peninsula, facing the island of Berneray, about $\frac{7}{8}$ mile north-east of Port nan Long, are several mounds of tumbled stones. Iron rivets of Viking type were noted.

About 100 yards to the south on the summit of the hill is a small cairn of stones, Carnan Beag, in which Viking rivets have also been found.

Both these sites have been rifled, and besides the rivets already noted, a number of glass beads and a hair comb of Viking type were recovered. A skeleton was also found in the first-mentioned burial.

North Uist xxvi. 15 August 1914.

276. Short Cist, Boreray.—At the base of a sandhill, washed by high tides, near the head of the bay, Traigh na Luibe, on the east side of the island of Boreray, a partly demolished short cist, containing a few much decayed and broken human bones, was noted. One side slab and an end slab remained in position, showing the grave to have been about 2 feet 6 inches in length, and somewhat less in breadth. Many graves containing human remains have been exposed by high tides above the sandy eastern shore of this island.

North Uist xxvi (unnoted). 11 August 1915.

277. Dwellings on Eilean an Tighe, Loch nan Geireann.—Upon a narrow and rocky islet called Eilean an Tighe in the north end of Loch nan Geireann are the ruins of no less than five old structures which proved, during excavations by the late Mr Beveridge, remarkably fruitful in relics of its former occupation. One of these constructions on the south-west of the islet is rectangular in shape and is enclosed by walls 2 feet thick. It measures internally $13\frac{1}{2}$

by 11 feet. A little to the north end of the islet are the remains of another structure with walls about 30 inches thick and having a diameter of about 12 feet, and towards the south-east of the island are less distinct traces of another smaller enclosure. The centre of the island has been occupied by two adjoining circular erections of similar appearance, and it is possible that the island may have been connected by causeway to the neighbouring promontory of Ard Reamhar, where traces of a distinct pier running northwards for a distance of 10 to 20 yards were noted by Mr. Beveridge.¹

¹ *North Uist*, p. 222.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted).

278. Dwellings, Geirisclett.—Upon a promontory known as Geirisclett, less than a mile to the north of Cnoc a' Comhdhalach (No. 269), is another ancient site which was revealed beneath later erections by excavation. It yielded relics very similar to those found at Cnoc a' Comhdhalach, but the construction itself apparently belonged to a different class. It was found to consist of a large central chamber of irregular shape, bordered both on its east and west by groups of small cells, the whole extending for about 63 feet in greatest width, and having an oblong, round-cornered hearth, measuring 7 feet by 6 feet, in the centre. The hearth is edged with small stones, and from it two drains run out to the north-easterly and southern boundaries. Buildings of comparatively modern date had been super-imposed upon the earlier site. Cf. Beveridge's *North Uist*, pp. 206-7.

North Uist xxx (unnoted).

279. Structures on Islands in Loch nan Geireann.—In Loch nan Geireann, or Geireann Mill Loch as it is more often called, are numerous small islands, some of which contain traces of human habitations of various dates, some doubtless quite late. On Eilean an Tighe, some 500 yards south of the old mill at the north end of the loch, are several circular foundations of stone, and one of rectangular shape. On a rocky peninsula on the east side of the loch, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of the mill, connected with the shore by a low sandy spit showing the remains of a causeway on its summit, are the

remains of a circular building about 25 feet in diameter, the wall being some 4 feet thick.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted). 21 August 1915.

280. Dwellings and Hut Circles, Loch Scadavay.—In one of the eastern arms of Loch Scadavay, between Ard Smeilish and Rudh a'Chlachain, some 3 miles west of Lochmaddy, is an islet about 36 yards in length from east to west, and 30 yards in breadth, the western portion rising abruptly to a height of about 10 feet above the loch, and the eastern part about 3 feet. The island towards its western side is connected with a narrow peninsula to the north by a causeway, 60 feet long and from 4 feet 6 inches to 5 feet broad, with a slight double curve in its course.

About 10 feet from the island end of the causeway towards the east and about 4 feet higher is a stone building curved at the eastern end and straight across the opposite end, measuring internally 8 feet from east to west and 6 feet from north to south, the wall, 2 feet thick at the base, standing to a height of from 3 feet to 3 feet 6 inches above the interior, except towards the north-east, where it is broken down. There is a doorway 1 foot 6 inches wide in the southern wall, and another, with the east jamb broken down, in the north wall facing the loch. A recess 14 inches square and 18 inches deep is built in the eastern end. Some 6 feet to the south-south-west and at a slightly higher level is a somewhat similar structure, measuring internally 8 feet from north to south and 5 feet from east to west. As in the first building there is a doorway in each flank, that on the west 1 foot 6 inches wide and the other on the east 1 foot 10 inches wide; there is also a broken-down recess in the southern end. The wall is from 1 foot 6 inches to 2 feet high. In the same line as these buildings, about 19 feet to the south and on the highest point on the island, is a slightly oval stone structure, 6 feet in length internally from north to south and 5 feet in breadth.

On the flat part of the island near its centre are two more hut circles; the first, lying about 11 feet east-south-east of the first-mentioned building, is pear-shaped, the broad end to the north, and measures 7 feet from north to south and 6 feet across the widest part, the broken-down doorway being in this end. Immediately

adjoining it to the south are the remains of the last hut circle; the eastern half has almost disappeared, but the western arc is from 1 foot to 2 feet in height; it has had an internal diameter of about 9 feet.

In shallow water about 12 to 15 feet from the western edge of the island is an irregular setting of large blocks of stone, many projecting above the water, which encloses a crescentic space about 10 yards long, as if to form a rude boat harbour. It has a wide opening towards the south and a narrow opening towards the north.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 3 September 1914.

281. Mounds with large slabs, Buaile Maari.—At the base of the southern slope of Maari, at an elevation of 200 feet above sea-level, are three large grass-covered stony mounds surmounted by ruined sheilings, with the remains of many stock enclosures in the immediate vicinity. On the western slope of one of these mounds is a very large slab 12 feet 6 inches in length, 6 feet broad and 1 foot 4 inches thick; near the base on the south side is another slab 9 feet 3 inches long by 3 feet 10 inches broad and 11 inches thick, while to the south-east is a third 8 feet 3 inches long and 12 inches thick showing a breadth above the surface of the ground of about 3 feet.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted). 4 August 1914.

282. Cave, Gleann Seiliseir, Portain.—In the face of a rugged precipice in Gleann Seiliseir, Portain, looking southwards over Abhuinn Loch Gille-ghoid, and approachable over a steep, rough talus 30 feet high, is a cave penetrating about 23 feet into the rock, measuring some 18 feet across the mouth and diminishing considerably in width towards the interior, while the height from 5 feet 6 inches at the mouth attenuates to about 2 feet at the back. The floor of the cave is covered with limpet shells, animal bones and some ashes. Pottery has also been found.

North Uist xxxvi (unnoted). 22 July 1914.

283. Walled Enclosure, Scaalan, Lochmaddy.—About 300 yards from the eastern extremity of Scaalan, the narrow peninsula between Strom Dearg and Strom Ban, immediately to the south

of Lochmaddy village, in a hollow between two outcrops of rock, is an enclosure measuring 54 feet from east to west and 43 feet from north to south, formed by a ring of fairly large blocks of stone. Hand-made unornamented pottery was noted at the mouth of rabbit burrows both inside and outside the wall, and iron rivets with lozenge-shaped heads of Viking type are recorded as having been found here.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 7 August 1914.

284. Cave, Druim na h-Uamh, Burrival.—About 20 feet up the face of a cliff on a small hill lying to the south-east of Burrival, and facing the east side of Eaval, is a cave measuring 40 feet in length, which runs north by east into the rock, making a slight curve towards the east near the inner end. It is 9 feet high and 8 feet wide at the mouth, and contracts so very gradually in height and width towards the inner end that at about 9 feet from this extremity it is 4 feet 6 inches wide and 4 feet high. The floor is covered with peat and a few limpet shells were seen. Pottery has also been found.

North Uist xl. 30 July 1915.

285. Large Slabs, Baishune's Grave and Leac Alasdair, Ben Langass.—On the north-eastern slope of Ben Langass, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east-north-east of Langass Lodge, at an elevation of some 200 feet above sea-level, are two groups of large slabs, which, though known as Baishune's Grave and Leac Alasdair, cannot definitely be termed prehistoric monuments. The two groups lie about 6 feet apart, the former lying rather higher up the hill than the latter. On three of the stones comprising Baishune's Grave there are several small hollows, with a channel or gutter running diagonally across one of the slabs, but though these are about the usual size of cup-marks they have probably been formed by natural causes.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 19 August 1915.

286. Kitchen Midden, Ceardach Ruadh, Baleshare.—About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north-west of Teampull Chriosd (No. 161), on a high sandhill near the sea-shore, is a kitchen midden with some loose stones on the summit, perhaps the remains of a hut circle. Unornamented pottery, pumice, bones of animals and shells of winkles and lim-

pets, the former most numerous, as well as a few pieces of iron, were noted. A large block of whale bone $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 7 inches, with two holes on top near one side $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches and $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches in diameter and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, was found and retained for the National Museum. Human burials and pins of bronze and bone have been found here, as well as flints and bits of deer horn.

About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south of above are extensive kitchen middens at a place called Sloc Sabhaidh. Burials have been found here, also plain pottery and animal bones, winkles predominating among shells. At one place cockles were the only shells. Two good selections of deposits were seen: one to the north, 1 foot thick, showed three layers of winkles with sand between, and another at the south showed a thickness of about 2 feet.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 7 September 1914.

287. Kitchen Midden, Sithean Mor, Callernish.—Near the shore at Callernish, on the mainland of North Uist, opposite the western end of the island of Vallay, is a large, sandy mound about 30 yards long, 20 yards broad and 15 feet high. A foot below the grassy surface is a layer of kitchen midden refuse, in places 2 feet thick, resting on blown sand. Shells of limpet and periwinkle are found in abundance, with bones of animals and fragments of pottery.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 29 July 1914.

288. Kitchen Midden, Loch na Buaile, Lochmaddy.—On a grass-covered promontory at the eastern end of Loch na Buaile, beside the ruins of a house, on a slight elevation, are the foundations apparently of a number of ancient dwellings. Many fragments of hand-made pottery scraped out by rabbits have been found, and a thin flake of light grey flint was observed. On the eastern side of the knoll, in a rabbit's burrow, a layer of kitchen midden refuse, including fragments of pottery, bones and limpet and whelk shells, is noticeable.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 24 July 1914.

SITES.

289. Church (probable site of), Eilean an Teampuill, Collastrome.—In the narrows

between Collastrome and Minish Island, connecting Loch Blashaval with Loch Minish, about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles north-west of Lochmaddy, on Eilean an Teampull, a grass-covered tidal islet approached by a causeway, are the almost obliterated foundations of a building orientated slightly south of east and north of west, probably the remains of the Teampull.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted) 24 July 1914.

290. St Columba's Chapel (site of), Sand.—The site of St Columba's Chapel lies a few yards west of the modern burying ground known as Sand, about 400 yards from the sea-shore, at the northern end of Machair Robach, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of Trumisgarry Church. No remains are now visible. The ridge to the north bears the significant name of Druim na Croise.

North Uist xxxi. 12 August 1914.

291. Teampull Mhuir (site of), St Ultan's Chapel (site of).—In burying ground $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east by north of Vallay House; no measurable buildings now traceable. "St Ultan's" Chapel and that of St Mary are mentioned by Martin.

North Uist xxx. 28 July 1914.

292. Cladh Chothain (site of).—On Ard an Runair peninsula near the south-west corner of the sandy bay Traigh nam Faoghailean. No remains traceable.

North Uist xxxiii. 11 September 1914.

293. Dunskeilor, Sollas.—About 600 yards north of the school at Sollas, on a slight ridge immediately to the north-west of a crofter's steading, are the ruins of Dunskeilor. The dun has been much despoiled for building-stone, and all that remains is an irregularly shaped mound covered with grass, measuring about 58 feet across and 10 feet in height.

North Uist xxx. 31 July 1914.

294. Dun Toloman.—About 200 yards south of the road, some $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east of Sollas, near the western end of a marshy flat, once a loch but now drained, is the site of Dun Toloman. The dun is now represented by a green mound about 4 feet in height, measuring about 70 feet in length and 55 feet in breadth.

North Uist xxx. 31 July 1914.

295. Dun, Strath Beag an Duin.—In a remote valley lying between Loch Mousgrip and Beinn na h-Aire to the north of Allt nan Seilicheag is a rocky mound with a quantity of large blocks of stone placed at varying intervals and suggestive of a building of circular shape with a diameter of about 40 feet. But for the name this could hardly be admitted as a defensive site.

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 21 August 1915.

296. Dun, Loch Bru.—Loch Bru is an eastern extension of Loch an Duin. Near its centre is a green rocky islet rising only some 10 feet above the water. On the summit are the remains of a dun measuring about 33 feet in diameter externally. There are indications of an outer wall towards the south-east, where the end of a dilapidated causeway about 60 yards long lands on the islet.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted). 20 August 1916.

297. Dun, Loch an Iasgaich.—“A mile north-west from Beinn na Coille are the remains of an island-dun in Loch an Iasgaich, connected with a neighbouring point on the west shore by a curved causeway 20 yards in length. This fort seems to have occupied only the south-west corner of the island, measuring a diameter of about 28 feet over its walls, which have been greatly damaged no doubt through the removal of stones for the construction of shielings.”¹

¹ Beveridge's *North Uist*, p. 181.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted).

298. Dun, Loch Obisary.—About 100 yards from the eastern shore of Loch Obisary and some 400 yards from its southern end is a fort of uncommon type, inasmuch as the wall of enceinte is built partly in the water enclosing a flooded area. The dun, which is inaccessible except by boat, has been described by Dr Beveridge (*North Uist*, p. 167).

North Uist xl (unnoted). 14 August 1915.

299. Dun Ban, Loch Hornary, Grimsay.—Loch Hornary is a long, narrow loch lying near the north-eastern corner of Grimsay. Towards its south-eastern end, and some 30 yards from the southern shore, is a small, rocky island

occupied by Dun Ban, the building of which is obscured by a vigorous growth of brushwood and ferns. The dun is connected with the southern shore of the loch by a submerged causeway which takes a sharp turn towards the west as it approaches the island. Without a boat it is impossible to reach the dun, which was excavated by Captain Thomas and examined by Dr Beveridge in 1907.

North Uist xlv. 28 June 1915.

300. Dun, Loch Fada.—Between the northern shore of Loch Fada and Eilean Mossam, one of the largest islands in the loch, is an oval islet occupied by the remains of a dun, which show as a truncated conical mound of stones rising some 5 feet distant from the water's edge. At no place is any building traceable. The ruins measure 55 feet from north to south and 34 feet from east to west, and rise 4 feet above the water. On the north-east of the island a strip of the shelving beach under the water is cleared of stones, and as small blocks are arranged on each side it has the appearance of a boat entrance, which, however, may be late.

Dr Beveridge observes: “A single flake of flint was noticed here.” (*North Uist*, p. 154).

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 4 August 1914.

301. Dun, Loch na Buaile, Lochmaddy.—Towards the west end of Loch na Buaile, a small loch about a mile north-west of Lochmaddy, is a small flat-topped island, overgrown with a vigorous growth of rowans, honey-suckle and bracken, which is traditionally the site of a dun. Owing to the growth of vegetation no signs of building can be seen, but a submerged causeway from the south-eastern corner of the island to an intervening islet, and from that islet to the south bank of the loch, seems to confirm the tradition.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 23 July 1914.

302. Dun Leiravay, Lochmaddy.—In the narrow passage between Eilean Leiravay and the peninsula of Stromban, to the south-west of Lochmaddy, is a round tidal islet, the summit of which rises some 4 feet above the highest tides. The summit of the islet has been defended by a stone wall now almost entirely removed, only a few tumbled stones scattered

over the slope of the island remaining. It seems to have had an external diameter of about 30 feet.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 7 August 1914.

303. Dun, Bac-a-stoc.—"A mile south-east from Dun Torcuill (No. 172), and about 20 yards off the northern extremity of Bac-a-stoc, lies a rocky sea-islet in one of the devious branches of Lochmaddy, here contracted into a narrow channel which the tide sets in rapid stream.

"According to local tradition this rock was occupied as an ancient fort,¹ a character which is also borne out by still existing evidence. That portion of its area which stands above the reach of spring-tides may be taken as measuring approximately 6 yards in width by 12 yards in length, with a maximum elevation of about 5 feet. Here detached fragments of a wall are traceable along the south edge, while less distinct remains of some interior erection also show near the summit. Facing south, under the slope of a massive boulder which forms its roof, is a small recess built up at each side and of sufficient capacity to hold a man in sitting posture.

"We were assured that, even at low-water, this islet cannot now be reached from the neighbouring shore, although there are some indications that an access formerly existed over a group of intervening rocks."*

¹ "Until quite recent times known under a specific name, although most unfortunately this seems now to be lost."

* Beveridge's *North Uist*, pp. 153-4.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted).

304. Dun, Loch na Ceithir-Eileana, Loch Eport.—In Loch na Ceithir-Eileana, which lies about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile south-east of Loch Eport school, are four green islands, the largest of which, lying some 40 yards from the southern shore, is occupied by the remains of a dun. The fort is unapproachable except by boat, but viewed from the southern shore of the loch the remains of a stone wall rising about 4 feet from the water's edge can be seen bordering the south flank and south-western end of the island. Three entrances are noticeable in this portion of the defences.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 17 August 1915.

305. Dun, Loch na Sruthan Beag, Ronay.—In the deep hollow on the south side of Beinn nan Druidhneach is the small loch named Loch na Sruthan Beag, some 20 yards from the southern shore of which is a small, oval, rocky island said to be the site of a dun. There seems to be a submerged causeway between the dun and the southern shore of the loch.

North Uist xlv (unnoted). 28 June 1915.

306. Dun, Loch a'Mhuilinn, Grimsay.—Near the eastern end of the island of Grimsay, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile west of Kallin, is the long, narrow Loch a'Mhuilinn, near the centre of which is a small island occupied by the remains of a dun. The building is now a mere rickle of stones hidden under a covering of ferns and other plants. On the southern side the ruins of the wall round the margin are clearly seen from the shore of the loch. It is reached from the northern shore of the loch by a causeway linking it up with two intervening small islands, the portion between the dun and the nearest islet being now submerged and impassable.

North Uist xlv (unnoted). 28 June 1915.

307. Dun Ban, Loch Caravat, Grimsay.—In the eastern arm of Loch Caravat, which lies a short distance west of the centre of the island of Grimsay, is an islet known as Dun Ban, the second of this name on the island. It is inaccessible except by boat, though it is credited with being connected with the northern shore of the loch by a submerged causeway, which could not be seen, the water being rough and of dark colour. The islet stands about 9 feet above the water and bears a strong growth of vegetation. Its margin is rocky and there seems to be building between the gaps in the rock.

North Uist xlv. 28 June 1915.

308. Dun, Loch an Fhaing, Grimsay.—Near the centre of Loch an Fhaing, a small loch near the western end of the island of Grimsay, which lies to the east of the North Ford between the islands of North Uist and Benbecula, are the scanty remains of a dun. Nothing survives but a mass of loose stones projecting slightly above the water. The site is possibly artificial.

North Uist xlv (unnoted). 28 June 1915.

309. Dun, Loch 'ic Colla.—Near the south-east corner of Loch 'ic Colla, about $\frac{3}{8}$ mile north-east of Dun Ban Hacklett (No. 186), is a low islet said to be the site of a dun. Viewed from the southern shore of the loch the island is surrounded by a ring of loose stones of small size.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 13 August 1915.

310. Dun Cheirein, Claddach - Carinish.—The site of Dun Cheirein, which stood above the shore immediately west of the mouth of Bolltravagh, a muddy bay lying to the east of Claddach-Carinish, is now occupied by a crofter's house.

North Uist xlv (unnoted). 13 August 1915.

311. Dun, Beinn na Coille.—At the western base of Beinn na Coille, about midway between the northern and southern arms of Loch Caravat, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, some $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-east of Carinish, is a circular heap of stones and earth, slightly hollow on the summit, measuring about 55 feet in diameter and about 12 feet in height. The building has been despoiled to build adjoining shielings, and the only bit of structure exposed consists of a few large stones apparently forming part of a course on the outer face of the south-east wall of a circular building, probably a dun. This site and its neighbour (No. 330) are marked "Tumuli" on O.S. map.

North Uist xl. 2 August 1915.

312. Dun na h-Ola, Baleshare.—The site of this dun appears as an irregular stony mound overgrown with grass, measuring about 60 feet across and 3 feet in height. It is situated on flat ground, once the bed of a loch, 400 yards north-east of Teampull Chriosd (No. 161).

North Uist xxxix. 7 September 1914.

313. Dun Mor, Loch an Duin Mhor, Baleshare.—On the present southern shore of Loch an Duin Mhor, in the island of Baleshare, but surrounded by water before the level of the loch was lowered, is a flat-topped mound of stone overgrown with grass, measuring about 42 feet in diameter and rising 7 feet above the surroundings. The wall has almost entirely been removed and no structure is traceable.

Extending to the east is a strong bank hidden in vegetation, possibly the remains of a causeway.

North Uist xxxix. 7 September 1914.

314. Dunan Mor, Rosamul, Baleshare.—At the northern extremity of Rosamul, on the north shore of Baleshare, is a prominent grass-covered mound rising about 10 feet above the surrounding ground, the remains of a fort, Dunan Mor. There are no structural remains to indicate the character of the site.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 7 September 1914.

315. Dun, Balilleray, Baleshare.—About 700 yards north of Dun Mor, Loch an Duin Mhor (No. 313), at Balilleray, in a cattle fold, which contains the ruins of many houses, is a mound surmounted by dilapidated buildings, which apparently has been the site of a dun, as the foundations of the northern half of a circular structure, about 31 feet in diameter externally with a wall 4 feet thick, can still be traced. Some of the blocks of stone are of considerable size.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 7 September 1914.

316. Dun Steingarry, Balranald.—Dun Steingarry is built 15 yards from the extremity of a low promontory, 1 mile south of Balranald House, at the south-west corner of Loch Paible. This was once a fresh-water loch, but since the artificial deepening of the passage between it and the sea, more than a century ago, it has become an arm of the sea, which is dry at low water. There is nothing left to indicate the position of this building but a rounded mound, under cultivation, measuring barely 50 feet in diameter and 4 feet in height.

North Uist xxxiii (unnoted). 6 August 1915.

317. Dun, Loch Vausary.—About 60 yards from a small promontory on the north side of Loch Vausary is a small grass-covered island once occupied by a dun, of which the only remains are a stony mound about 50 feet in diameter and 6 feet in height. It is connected to the shore by a submerged causeway.

North Uist xxxiv (unnoted). 9 September 1914.

318. Dun Scarie, Loch Scarie, Balranald.—Near the middle of the western shore of Loch Scarie, some $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north by west of Balranald, is an islet crowned by the scanty remains of Dun Scarie. Only an irregular mound, rising some 7 feet above the water, crowned with the rectangular foundations of late buildings, is to be seen. No structure remains in position to give any indication of the character or dimensions of the dun, but the islet is now after a partial drainage of the loch about 100 feet in diameter. A causeway 113 feet in length, with a slight curve in its course, connects the dun with the western shore of the loch. The stones of this work are spread over a width of about 12 feet, but originally it has not exceeded 6 feet.

North Uist xxxiii. 6 August 1915.

319. Dun, An Caisteil, Ard an Runair.—The site of this dun is at the north-eastern extremity of Ard an Runair peninsula. No remains are now traceable.

North Uist xxxiii. 11 September 1914.

320. Dun, Loch Cnoc nan Uan, Tighary.—In a marshy hollow lying immediately to the west of the road, some 400 yards south of Tighary school, is the site of a dun. All that remains is a low, circular, grass-covered mound, about 20 yards in diameter and 2 feet in height, from which a ruined causeway, spread over a width of 9 feet, extends westwards for some 40 yards to the original bank of the loch before it was drained.

North Uist xxxiii. 16 August 1915.

321. Dun, Cnoc a Chaisteal, Boreray.—This reputed dun occupies a hillock, Cnoc a Chaisteal, on the south shore of the island of Boreray, some 40 feet above high-water mark, the sloping rocks coming to within a few yards of the site. A ring of stone some 4 to 5 feet in width encloses a space measuring some 72 feet from east to west, and 70 feet from north to south. It is sub-oval on plan generally, but towards the north-west the wall forms an obtuse angle.

North Uist xxvi (unnoted). 11 August 1915.

322. Dun Scolpaig, Loch Scolpaig.—About 1 mile south-east of the extreme north-west

corner of North Uist is the partly drained Loch Scolpaig with a low islet near its centre. This islet is the site of Dun Scolpaig, which has been entirely destroyed, a modern octagonal tower on the summit and enclosing wall having been built out of stones from the dun.

North Uist xxix. 11 September 1914.

323. Kelig (Dunan Ruadh), Oransay.—Off the extreme northern point of Oransay, a large tidal island in the Vallaquie Strand, is a rough mass of rock marked Kelig on O.S. map, but locally known as Dunan Ruadh. It is connected with the land except at the height of the tide. Though the name is suggestive of a fortified site there is nothing indicative of this, as there are only a few tumbled stones on the sandy, grass-covered summit of the rock.

North Uist xxxi. 12 August 1914.

324. Dun, Oban Trumisgarry.—Some 50 yards from the north shore of Oban Trumisgarry, a small, shallow, tidal loch about 600 yards east of Trumisgarry Church, is a circular islet some 40 feet in diameter, rising about 4 feet above the water, surmounted by the mere fragment of a dun. All the stones from the outer face of the wall have been removed and nothing remains but an irregular stony mound. It is connected with the northern shore of the loch by a causeway almost hidden by mud.

Some 25 feet west of the landward end of the causeway is a curved setting of large blocks of stone facing the loch, the western extremity of which is carried into the water.

North Uist xxxi. 12 August 1914.

325. Dun Rosail, Clachan.—Some 350 yards north-west of Clachan School, about 7 miles north-west of Lochmaddy, and 250 yards west of the road to Port nan Long, on a rocky mound at the western extremity of a slight ridge rising about 15 feet above the level of the ground to the north and 30 feet to the south, is the site of Dun Rosail. The building has almost entirely disappeared, and no measurable details can now be recognised. The O.S. map records human remains found in 1872.

North Uist xxxi. 12 August 1914.

326. Dun, Vallaquie.—On a mound known as Cnoc a' Chaisteil, a few yards from the sea-shore about 500 yards west of Vallaquie farm-house, is the site of a dun, An Caisteal. Some kitchen-midden refuse and shards of pottery were noticed in rabbits' burrows.

North Uist xxxi (Castle, site of). 12 August 1914.

327. Close to the west of Eilean Maleit (No. 270) is a much smaller islet with apparent traces of a former occupation.¹

¹ Beveridge's *North Uist*, p. 209.

North Uist xxx (unnoted).

328. Seanna Chaisteal, Ronaybeg.—Half a mile south from Rudh' an Duin, near the opposite shore of Ronay Sound, is a high rocky island fully an acre in extent. This is known as Seanna Chaisteal, or "old castle," traditionally once occupied by a fort, of which however no traces remain. An annexe to its west locally bears the name of "the fort's kitchen."

North Uist xlv.

329. Chambered Cairn (supposed), Barp Hacklett, Knock-cuien.—The site known as Barp Hacklett lies on the summit of a slight elevation, rising about 50 feet above sea-level, about 400 yards south-west of Loch nan Garbh Chlachan (Loch Hacklett), and about 600 yards east of Knock-cuien. It is an irregular earthen mound, covered with stones and ruined shielings, about 80 feet in diameter and 8 feet in height. From present indications there is nothing to suggest that, as the name would imply, it has been a burial cairn. The core of the mound seems more earthen than stony, but a crofter's house was built of material from this site some twelve years ago.

North Uist xl (unnoted). 13 August 1915.

330. Cairn or Dun, Beinn na Coille.—On the western slope of Beinn na Coille, about 150 yards east-north-east of and some 50 feet higher than the dun (No. 311), is a circular heap of stones some 43 feet in diameter and 5 feet in height. The monument has been destroyed to build the shielings seen on its summit and sides, and it is impossible to determine its character

from present surface indications. From its size it seems more like a cairn than a dun.

North Uist xl. 2 August 1915.

331. Cairn, Carnan Buidhe, Carnach.—On the shore, opposite the island of Baleshare, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of Carnach, is a small peninsula terminating in a conical mound, Carnan Buidhe, for the most part apparently a natural formation. On the summit about 10 feet above high-water mark there seem to be the remains of a cairn about 25 feet in diameter and 4 feet in height.

North Uist xxxix (unnoted). 7 September 1914.

332. Ruined Hut Circles, Slochd na Choire (Hollow of the Kettle), Loch Grotta, Portain.—Amongst tumbled rocks at the foot of a rocky slope about 200 yards west of Loch Grotta, at a place known as Slochd na Choire, are the dislodged remains of several small structures, probably hut circles. A number of limpet shells were noted in the vicinity.

North Uist xxxvi (unnoted). 22 July 1914.

333. Hut Circles, Rudh'an t-Sruith Bhig, Lochmaddy.—On the summit of the northern extremity of a small peninsula, Rudh'an t-Sruith Bhig, lying between an arm of Strumore and Loch Houram, barely a mile north-west of Lochmaddy, are a few scattered blocks of stone distributed over a length of some 45 feet and a breadth of about 30 feet, among which the outline of the foundations of two circular stone structures, 12 feet in diameter, can be traced.

North Uist xxxv (unnoted). 8 August 1914.

334. Earth-house (site of), Dun Rosail.—At the base of the southern slope of the knoll crowned by the remains of Dun Rosail (No. 325) there is said to have been an earth-house, the site of which is outlined by a depression in the ground. A semicircular setting of stones appearing above the grass in a hollow 6 feet in diameter may be part of the structure.

North Uist xxxi (unnoted). 12 August 1914.

335. Earth-house, Balelone.—In a sand-hill on the sea-shore about $\frac{1}{8}$ mile west of

Balelone is an earth-house buried in sand. In the broken face of the dune the ends of two thin drystone walls have been exposed by the waves. The site is marked "Site of Earth-houses" on O.S. map.

North Uist xxix. 16 August 1915.

336. **Earth-house, Scolpaig.**—The site of this earth-house lies on the face of the hillock (Cnoc an Litich), 30 to 50 yards north of the farmhouse of Scolpaig. Its presence is suspected from a horse's foot sinking through between the cover stones.

North Uist xxix (unnoted). 11 September 1914.

337. **Earth-house (site), near Sithean Mor, Callernish.**—About 200 yards to the south of the kitchen midden site at Sithean Mor, Callernish, an earth-house is said to have been discovered when digging a drain, but it was not explored.

North Uist xxx (unnoted). 29 July 1914.

338. **Tumuli, near Loch Obisary.**—The two "Tumuli," marked on O.S. map, are apparently only shieling mounds, as there are not sufficient stones to have formed cairns.

North Uist xl. 14 August 1915.

BENBECULA.

(Parish of South Uist.)

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

339. **Teampull Chaluim Chille, Balivanich.**—This ruin stands on a slight eminence in a marsh $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south-east of Balivanich. The church has been oblong on plan and, by a later extension, two-chambered, but the extent of the nave cannot be definitely ascertained, the side walls being breached. The lateral walls at the eastern end are 2 feet 2 inches and 2 feet 4 inches in thickness, while those of the nave are 4 feet and 4 feet 4 inches in thickness. The total internal dimensions are $47\frac{1}{2}$ feet from east to west by $14\frac{1}{2}$ feet; the gables are $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, and the eastern is reduced to foundations, while the western remains to the height of the entrance lintel. The lateral walls, breached in places, stand on

an average 8 feet above the present ground level.

The masonry is rubble, roughly coursed and built in mortar, which is used sparingly in the nave and more plentifully in the sanctuary. The entrance, a lintelled doorway 2 feet 1 inch wide, is centred in the west gable; in the lateral walls are narrow windows splaying inwardly. The interior of the church is filled with a dense growth of nettles, and the structure is in bad preservation.

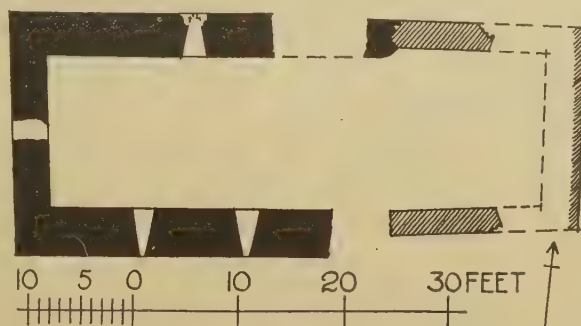


FIG. 152.—Teampull Chaluim Chille, Balivanich (No. 339).

West of the Teampull on a similar knoll are some indeterminate foundations.

TOBAR CHALUIM CHILLE, BALIVANICH.—The well known as Tobar Chaluim Chille lies about 200 yards south by west of the Teampull on slightly higher ground. Impinging on the south side of the well is a small cairn, about 12 feet wide and 3 feet high, composed of stones carried there as votive offerings by people who came to drink of the water.

South Uist xlv. 26 July 1924.

340. **Chapel, Nunton.**—Within a graveyard at Nunton is the roofless shell of a small church, oblong on plan, built of rubble in mortar. It measures $24\frac{3}{4}$ feet by $15\frac{3}{4}$ feet over walls $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. The entrance, centred in the west gable, is surmounted by a small square niche; in the opposite gable is a small narrow window, and there are two others similar in each of the side walls.

The ruin is in fair condition, but the ground has silted up considerably.

"In the island of Benbecula there was a nunnery on the farm now called Nuntown. The building was taken down and the stones used in the building of Clanranald's mansion

and office-houses."—*New Stat. Acct.*, vol. xiv., p. 188: cf. No. 382.

South Uist xlv. 26 July 1924.

341. Teampull Bhuirgh, Borve.—Some 500 yards south-west of Borve Castle is the ruined Teampull Bhuirgh ("Church of the burg or castle"), almost covered with blown sand, which reaches the present top of the walls on the outside and partly fills the interior. The church is oblong and is orientated. The eastern end of the building is quite hidden by the sand, but it has been about 46 feet in length, and about 17 feet 10 inches in breadth internally. The gables have disappeared, and except on the south wall, where a height of 3 feet 9 inches is exposed, the inner face of the masonry has weathered away.

South Uist xlvi. 13 July 1915.

CASTLE.

342. Borve Castle.—Situated on the machair 2 miles north-west of Creagorry are the remains of Borve Castle, an oblong tower measuring 60 feet by 36½ feet over walls varying from 5 to 9 feet in thickness, which are still almost 30 feet in height and indicate that there were at least three storeys. The masonry is rubble heavily bedded in tenacious mortar. The walls are not homogeneous, but have been built in two skins; the inner, which was built first, 2½ feet thick. The entrance is in the south wall, is 4 feet wide and has been barred; west of it is a small window.

The ruin is so very great that the internal arrangement cannot be determined without excavation. (Fig. 153.)

Cf. "the residence of the lairds of Benbecula in ancient times. There is no tradition in regard to the time or person by whom it was built."¹ Randal of Benbecula was known in 1625 as "of Castellborf."²

¹ *New Stat. Acct.*, xiv., p. 188.

² Cf. *Clan Donald*, iii., pp. 346, 348, 370.

South Uist xlv. 26 July 1924.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(DUNS.)

343. Dun Mhic Risdein, Loch Olavat.—Two of the largest lochs in Benbecula bear the

same name, Loch Olavat; they are both of very irregular outline and contain many small islands. In the southern Loch Olavat, which lies about 1 mile north of Creagorry, between its south-western shore and the peninsula which nearly divides it in two near its centre, is a small, rocky island crowned by the ruins of Dun Mhic Risdein. These form a heap of stones from 3 to 5 feet deep, amongst which the only traceable building is a single course of drystone masonry on the outer face of the eastern, southern and western arcs of the wall. The blocks forming this course are of large size, and even many of them are slightly displaced. On the west side, the wall, which otherwise forms the greater part of a circle, is almost straight, making the dun somewhat D-shaped on plan. The inner face of the wall is entirely obscured by stones. Externally the dun measures some 52 feet from north to south, and 45 feet from east to west.

This fort is named Dun Mhic Risdein on O.S. map, but it is known in the locality as Dun Mhic Uisdein ("Dun of the Son of Hugh").

South Uist xlv. 9 July 1915.

344. Dun Ruadh, Loch Olavat.—Dun Ruadh occupies the greater part of a small island some 500 yards north by west of Dun Mhic Risdein (No. 342), in the same loch, and some 25 yards east of the present extremity of a peninsula on the western shore of the loch. It is connected with this point by a causeway, some 75 yards in length, now in a very dilapidated condition. About 50 yards of the landward end are now on dry land, while the remaining portion is either submerged or partly cleared away to facilitate the passage of boats. Evidently the level of the loch has been considerably lowered since the dun and causeway were built. The dun is an irregular oval on plan, measuring internally some 58 feet from north-east to south-west, and about 40 feet from north-west to south-east. It is in a ruinous condition, and the wall, built from 10 to 15 feet from the present water's edge, is spread over a width of about 8 feet. In places, where there is an outcrop of rock, there is no appearance of building. Some 12 feet from the eastern end is a divisional wall running from east to west which forms a sub-oval chamber about



FIG. 153—Borve Castle (No. 342).



FIG. 154—Castle Calvay (No. 369).



FIG. 155—Ormaclett Castle (No. 370).

To face p. 100.

21 feet in length. The dun is covered with bramble, ferns and bog-myrtle.

South Uist xlv. 9 July 1915.

345. Dun Aonais, Loch Olavat.—Some 500 yards from the north-west end of Loch Olavat, and about 40 yards from its western shore, is Dun Aonais, the third dun in this loch. It occupies the whole of a small island some 30 yards in diameter and rising 9 feet in height, which lies 300 yards north-west of Dun Ruadh (No. 344). The sloping margin of the island for the entire circumference is covered, for a width of at least 15 feet and for a depth of about 2 feet, by a mass of stones, evidently the ruins of a wall built at the edge of the water. But so thorough has been the destruction wrought here that no building can be seen. On the summit of the island, about 6 feet above water level, and smothered by vegetation, are the ruined walls of a building composed of two oblong compartments placed parallel to and communicating with each other. The longer axis runs nearly west-north-west and east-south-east. The western compartment, the larger, measures internally 35 feet 3 inches in length by 17 feet in breadth, and the other 27 feet in length by 12 feet 6 inches in breadth. The gables are not in line, but the larger chamber stands more to the north, its northern gable projecting 16 feet beyond the corresponding gable of the eastern chamber. Though hidden by brambles, bracken and foxgloves, the wall stands about 2 feet in height on the inside, and is about 3 feet thick, the divisional wall, which is most clearly defined, being 2 feet 9 inches thick. The entrance is placed about 4 feet from the northern end of the western wall of the larger chamber, but is too broken down for measurement, and the door between the rooms, which measures 4 feet in width, is placed 3 feet from the northern end of the eastern room. On the opposite wall, some 6 feet from the north end, a portion of the south jamb of a window or recess is noticeable.

The dun is reached over a causeway now spread over a space of 8 feet, but probably originally about 5 feet wide on the top, which, partly submerged, is carried in a north-westerly direction for about 50 yards, where it reaches the present shore. From this point it is con-

tinued some 25 yards on dry land, making a curve towards the north-west. It resembles the causeway to Dun Aonais (No. 213), inasmuch as it is now partly above water-level, which fact is further testimony to the lowering of the level of the water in times posterior to the occupation or erection of these duns.

South Uist xlv. 9 July 1915.

346. Dun, Gunisary Bay.—Some 700 yards due north of the hotel at Creagorry, in the north end of Gunisary Bay, a small loch lying to the east of the road, is a small island rising some 3 feet above the level of the water, occupied by the very scanty remains of a dun. Only a narrow ring of stones round the margin is left, but a submerged causeway, some 15 yards in length, connects the dun with the northern end of the loch. The dun has been oval, measuring about 50 feet from north to south and 40 feet from east to west.

South Uist xlv (unnoted). 21 July 1915.

347. Dun Torcusay, Loch Torcusay, Nunton.—Some 300 yards south-west of Nunton is a small loch known as Loch Torcusay, near the middle of which is an islet entirely covered and surrounded by a rank growth of reeds. The greater part of its area has been occupied by Dun Torcusay, which has been despoiled of stones to build houses at Nunton. Only the foundations are left, and these are difficult to trace amongst the vegetation. The building is an irregular oval measuring internally some 40 feet from north to south, and 32 feet across, the wall standing about 2 feet in height at most, and measuring some 2 to 3 feet in thickness; in the centre is a mound 4 feet in height. On the south there is a break in the wall, the ends of which overlap to form an entrance from the west, some 4 feet 6 inches wide. There is also another entrance from the north-east, 4 feet 6 inches wide, to the south of which within the enceinte there seems to be a chamber measuring about 17 feet in length from north to south and 5 feet 6 inches wide at the northern end.

South Uist xlv (unnoted). 14 July 1915.

348. Dún, Eilean Iain, Loch Eilean Iain.—About $1\frac{1}{8}$ miles north of the Established

Church of Benbecula, on the north-eastern arm of Loch Eilean Iain, is the small island from which the loch takes its name. The island, which is about 35 yards in length, is occupied by a dun with its wall built round the water's edge. Seen from the shore this wall has been of some strength, as the stones cover a space of considerable width. It is in a ruinous condition, but in places the outer face of the wall still stands to a height of about 4 feet above the water. The interior is hidden by vegetation. Between the dun and a promontory on the eastern shore of the loch, some 80 yards south-east of the dun, a line of stones is seen projecting at intervals slightly above the water, suggestive of a submerged causeway, as no similar arrangement of stones is to be seen at other places.

On the bank of the loch, just above where the causeway would reach the shore, is the stone foundation of a small sub-oval building, measuring internally 8 feet from north-west to south-east, and 7 feet from north-east to south-west, with a doorway facing the loch.

South Uist xlv. 16 July 1915.

349. Dun Buidhe, Loch Dun Mhurchaidh, Knock Rolum.—In Loch Dun Mhurchaidh, which lies to the east of Knock Rolum, is Dun Buidhe, built on a small island near the centre of the southern portion of the loch and lying at the south end of a larger island, Eilean Dubh, which through the lowering of the level of the water is now practically joined to the north-western shore of the loch. Eilean Dubh had been reached by a causeway, about 70 yards in length, and about 5 feet broad at the top, which now stands some 4 feet above the water. About half the length of this causeway is now on dry land. At the island end it has been defended by a transverse stone wall running north and south for a distance of about 35 yards. Very little of the wall remains, but a few stones at the northern end show that it had curved inwards to meet some sloping rocks on the shore of the island, while the southern end seems to have extended into the water. Before the level of the loch was lowered, the water, perhaps in times of flood, had evidently penetrated inland beyond the wall, as there are evidences of a continuation of the causeway on to the land for some 35 yards.

Between Eilean Dubh and the dun there is a second causeway nearly 150 yards in length, about 4 feet 6 inches broad at the top, and about 4 feet in height. It is a massive structure and in places the stones cover a space 12 feet in width. The greater part of this causeway is now on dry land, only some 40 yards near the outer end being in the water. The highest part of this causeway is towards the northern end, and before it could be submerged a rise of 6 feet 6 inches in the loch would be necessary. It runs first towards the south-east and then curves round towards the south. The small island occupied by Dun Buidhe is nearly circular, and measures some 50 yards in diameter; it has been surrounded by a wall built on the water's edge. As the debris of this wall covers a space measuring about 25 feet in width it must have been of considerable strength. It is entirely destroyed except on the south, where for a length of about 20 feet it shows the outer face standing some 6 feet above the fallen stones outside, and the inner face about 2 feet above the interior. At its present summit it is 3 feet thick. The main building has been almost entirely swept away, many of the stones having been used to build the later structures which encumber the islet. It has an external diameter of some 55 feet from east to west. On the south-western arc there is about 2 feet of the outer face in position, built with a distinct inward batter, and on the eastern side a few of the outer stones can be traced. The doorway lies to the north-east, but only the southern wall of the entrance can be discerned, and this shows the wall to be some 13 feet 3 inches thick at this place.

South Uist xlv. 14 July 1915.

CAIRNS.

350. Chambered Cairn, Airidh na h-Aon Oidhche.—This cairn lies about 550 yards east-south-east of the cairn on Stiaraval (No. 351), and is built near the summit of a small hill, near the centre of the island, rising 100 feet above sea-level, from which glimpses of the sea are to be obtained on all sides. The main mass of the cairn has not been removed, but it has been plundered of stones on its margin, especially on the north, and of large slabs taken chiefly

from the chamber to build some shielings at its base. It has been circular with a diameter of more than 52 feet, and now stands 11 feet in height on the northern half. Owing to the destruction of the chamber it is hollow on the summit, and in this hollow there are several slabs, the largest measuring 5 feet 10 inches by 2 feet 9 inches by 9 inches. The position of the entrance passage seems to have been towards the east-south-east, as there is a hollow here containing many flat stones of considerable size. (Fig. 163.)

South Uist xlv. 10 July 1915.

351. **Chambered Cairn, Stiaraval.**—About $2\frac{5}{8}$ miles north by east of Creagorry, at an elevation of 75 feet above sea-level, on the southern slope of Stiaraval, or Steinieval as it is usually called, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of the main road through the island, and some 150 yards north of Loch nan Clachan, is a ruined chambered cairn noted on the O.S. map as a stone circle. It is situated on the level summit of a slight ridge, which falls away sharply at the southern end from the edge of the cairn. The bulk of the stones of the mound have been removed, and there are several ruined shielings built partly on the cairn and in the immediate vicinity. The cairn seems to have been circular with a diameter of about 60 feet, and three slabs on its eastern edge point to it having been surrounded by a number of small standing stones around or within its margin. In the central part a heap of stones, probably about 4 feet deep at most, has been left, among which most of the slabs of the wall of the burial chamber remain practically in their original positions, as also two slabs set on edge in a line running east-south-east from the chamber towards the edge of the cairn, the remains of the northern wall of the entrance passage. Within the chamber, and on either side of it, are about twenty displaced slabs of large size, while a pillar stone 7 feet 1 inch in length lies on the western margin of the cairn. The chamber has been nearly circular with a diameter of about 12 feet, and has been formed of large, flat stones set on end, their sides nearly touching, the gaps between them and the cover stones of the roof having doubtless been of drystone building. Five of these upright stones, forming about two-thirds of the circle, remain in position,

but the tops have been pressed outwards. Another stone on the southern arc would fill up the gap. The largest of these slabs on the east and west sides measure 5 feet 5 inches in length by 10 inches in breadth, and 4 feet 8 inches in length by 1 foot 3 inches in breadth, respectively, and they stand 3 feet 3 inches and 4 feet in height above the debris in the chamber. The two stones in line on the northern side of the entrance passage are 8 inches apart, and the largest, which lies nearest the edge of the cairn, is 10 feet in length, 12 inches in thickness, and 2 feet 1 inch in height; the other is 3 feet 3 inches long, 3 feet 1 inch high, and 10 inches thick. To judge from their present position there has been a considerable rise in the floor of the passage between the portal and the chamber. (Fig. 165.)

South Uist xlv. 10 July 1915

STONE CIRCLES.

352. **Stone Circle, Suidheachadh Sealg, Gramisdale.**—On the flat summit of a broad ridge, some 500 yards south-east of the school at Gramisdale, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, is a dilapidated stone circle. Only one complete stone, on the south, and the stump of another, on the south-west, remain in position, and there are six stones overthrown; a small boulder and the broken fragments of another stone probably represent other two stones, making a total of ten stones, which form rather more than the western half of the circle. A pillar stone and a slab lie prostrate within the circumference of the circle on the east. The circle seems to have been about 85 feet in diameter. The surviving upright pillar measures 4 feet 10 inches in height, 2 feet 9 inches in width, and 10 inches in thickness, and the longest of the fallen monoliths measures 5 feet 8 inches in length.

South Uist xlv. 15 July 1915.

353. **Stone Circle, Gramisdale.**—About 1000 yards north of the last described circle (No. 352), and within 250 yards of the southern shore of the North Ford, on a slight eminence, are an erect monolith and two prostrate stones, the remains of a stone circle. The standing stone is a thin, blunt pointed pillar measuring 5 feet

in height, 3 feet 9 inches in width at its widest part about half-way up the stone, and 8 inches in thickness; the other stones, measuring 7 feet 9 inches by 4 feet 8 inches, and 4 feet 9 inches by 4 feet 6 inches, lie 41 feet 9 inches to the west-north-west (315° mag.) and 37 feet 4 inches to the south-west (220° mag.) respectively.

South Uist xliv. 15 July 1915.

MISCELLANEOUS.

354. Earth-house, Bruthach a Tuath, Balivanich.—About 1 mile north-north-east of Balivanich, on the edge of a grassy machair, is a mound of sand some 13 feet high with a layer of kitchen midden refuse scattered over its summit and sides. On the western slope of the mound is a quantity of dislodged stones, with what appear to be the outward ends of two walls radiating from the interior of the mound. Running north and south are two parallel lines of stone peeping through the sand, about 2 feet 6 inches apart, extending for a distance of some 18 feet, which are suggestive of an entrance passage into the building. The scanty fragments of building exposed seem to indicate the presence of a circular earth-house with the interior divided into compartments by walls arranged like the spokes of a wheel, of the type occurring in North Uist (*Intr.* xlii). Hand-made pottery, animal bones, whelk and limpet shells, also an occasional pecten and razor-fish, pins of bone and bronze, fire-places, hammer stones have been found here.

South Uist xlv (unnoted). 12 July 1915.

355. Cup-marked Stone, Hacklett.—On the summit of a rocky knoll on the southern side of the Sound of Flodday, some 400 yards north of Loch an Tairbh, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, is a slab of stone (Fig. 158.), apparently a standing stone which has been overthrown. It measures 10 feet 2 inches in length, 5 feet 6 inches in breadth, and from 1 foot in thickness at the base to 8 inches at the top. On the upper half of the stone, on its present superior surface, are eight hollows, of which five are undoubted cup-marks. They vary from $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in depth to 2 inches in diameter

and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in depth. The best cut cup measures $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in depth. The stone rests on several large blocks, and in the immediate neighbourhood there is a number of large stones. It is quite impossible to determine the character of the original structure which doubtless occupied this site, as it has been despoiled to build the house and enclosures on the eastern slopes of the knoll.—See *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, VIII., 285.

South Uist xlv (unnoted). 16 July 1915.

356. Sculptured Stone, Benbecula.—This stone was discovered about a mile or a mile and a half due east of the ruined well near Strome Shunnamal: "The slab from Strome Shunnamal is of grey granite, 3 feet long by $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad, and 8 to 9 inches thick. It bears on the one face an incised circle 12 inches in diameter, within which are three smaller circles and a triquetral ornament between them."¹ Besides the large circle there is an oblong incised rectangular figure 13 inches long by 5 inches in breadth, divided into two panels, one of which contains two incised scrolls. The other side of the stone is not sculptured. The stone is now preserved in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh (No. IB, 37).

¹ Cf. *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, VIII., 284-5.

South Uist xlv (unnoted). 16 July 1915.

357. Short Cist, Sithean Bhuirgh, Borge.—At the extreme south-western point of the island, about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile south-west of Borge Castle, is a sandy, grass-covered hillock rising in a gentle slope from the rocks on the sea-shore to a height of some 30 feet above sea-level, on the summit of which are seven large blocks of stone. The two largest stones measure 5 feet by 1 foot 10 inches by 1 foot 2 inches, and 5 feet 1 inch by 4 feet 10 inches by 10 inches, respectively; the former being placed on its edge looks like the side of a cist, and the latter has the appearance of a cover stone.

South Uist xlvi (unnoted). 13 July 1915.

SITES.

358. Gramisdale Cross.—The site of this cross is on the summit of a rocky knoll 10 feet

high and about 100 yards east of Stone Circle No. 353.

South Uist xlv. 15 July 1915.

359. Dun, Loch an Duin, Uachdar.—Near the northern shore of Loch an Duin, in the township of Uachdar, on a small island connected with the shore by a causeway, about 42 yards in length, of which some 18 yards at the northern end are now on dry ground, is a ruined dun. The causeway has been about 4 feet 6 inches wide on the top. All that remains of the dun is a ring of tumbled stones some 6 feet in width encircling the island. On the south-west curve there are a few stones on the outer face of the wall slightly shifted from their original position. The dun is slightly oval, and measures about 65 feet from east to west and 60 feet from north to south.

South Uist xlv. 15 July 1915.

360. Dun Fhearchair, Loch an Dun Fhearchair, Creagorry.—All that remains of Dun Fhearchair is a shapeless heap of stones, 45 feet in diameter and 4 feet high, lying at the end of a promontory on the west shore of the loch of the same name, some 600 yards north-east of the hotel at Creagorry.

South Uist xlv. 10 July 1915.

361. Dun Shunish, Knocknamonie.—Dun Shunish lies immediately west of Knocknamonie in marshy ground on the left bank of a sluggish stream. All that is left of the building is a heap of stones about 33 feet 6 inches in diameter and 3 feet in height.

South Uist xlv. 13 July 1915.

362. Dun, Loch an Dunain, Knocknamonie.—This dun occupies an islet in Loch an Dunain, a partially drained loch, north-west of Knocknamonie. It lies near the northern end of the loch and is separated from the western shore by some 20 yards of marshy ground. As many of the stones have been removed, and late buildings now in ruins have been built on the site, the dun is only a shapeless mass of stone and earth, measuring some 75 feet from north-east to south-west, some 52 feet from north-west to south-east, and 9 feet in height. The remains of a causeway giving access to the fort from the western shore of the loch, and measuring some 45 yards in length, are traceable partly

on what is now dry ground and partly in the morass. It has been about 5 feet wide and makes a considerable curve in its course. Leaving the shore it runs out almost due east, then turns almost to the south before it reaches the dun.

South Uist xlv. 13 July 1915.

363. Dun, Loch Hermidale.—Loch Hermidale is a long, narrow loch running north and south about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of Rueval, the highest hill in the island. Near the northern end an arm of the loch extends towards the west, and near the southern shore of this extension is a fortified island. It is reached over a narrow ridge of rock about 20 feet in length, which is connected with the south-western corner of the islet by a short causeway 18 feet long. The island is of irregular outline, and measures some 45 yards from north-west to south-east, and 15 yards across at its widest part. Only the landward margin of the island has been fortified. Around the west end, and along the southern shore to within a few yards of the eastern end, are the ruins of a stone wall. On the east and north looking out to the loch there is no artificial defence, though the island is easily accessible by boat at these parts. The building along the southern flank has apparently been only a parapet, but at the west end there seems to have been a strong wall with possibly a row of buildings abutting against the inside. No structure is traceable, but the stones cover a width of about 24 feet to a considerable depth.

South Uist xlv (unnoted). 21 July 1915.

364. Dun Borosdale, Loch Borosdale.—Near the middle of Loch Borosdale, a small loch lying about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile north of the Roman Catholic Church at Grinish, is an islet entirely obscured by vegetation, which is said to be the site of a dun. It is inaccessible but by boat.

South Uist xlv. 16 July 1915.

365. Dun (supposed), Loch na Beire, Hacklett.—One of the islands in this loch is said to be occupied by a dun. It is entirely covered by vegetation and without a boat no structure can be distinguished. The name Beire is probably a variant of the word Burgh.

South Uist xlv (unnoted). 16 July 1915.

366. Earth-house (site of), Borve.—About $\frac{5}{8}$ mile south-west of Borve Castle (No. 342), and some 110 yards north-north-west of Sithean (No. 357), on the sandy machair, at an elevation of about 30 feet above sea level, is a small sand dune rising about 8 feet above the surrounding ground, marked on the O.S. map as the site of an earth-house. All that can be seen of the earth-house is a few stones exposed by the burrowing of rabbits.

South Uist xlv. 13 July 1915.

SOUTH UIST

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

367. Church and Chapels, Howmore.—At the village of Howmore,¹ situated on the western side of the island about 12 miles north of Lochboisdale, are the remains of an interesting group of ecclesiastical buildings, comprising two churches, which were dedicated respectively to St Mary and to St Columba,² and two isolated chapels; a third chapel, observable in 1855, had been removed before 1866.³ The buildings run slightly north of east and are arranged in echelon. They are rubble built in lime mortar. The largest (O.S. *Teampull Mor*) is the most westerly and is represented only by the eastern gable and the foundations of the other walls. It has been 66 feet in total length by $26\frac{3}{4}$ feet in width; the side walls are 2 feet 8 inches and the gables 2 feet 10 inches in thickness. The east gable contains two narrow windows side by side about 6 inches in daylight, with lintelled heads slightly segmental in form; the rere-arches are semicircular and roughly formed with small stones; the window breasts are open. On either side of the windows is a small aumbry 2 feet 2 inches in breadth, 1 foot 4 inches deep, and 1 foot 7 inches high. (Fig. 161.)

Of the other church (O.S. *Caibeal Dhiarmaid*), likewise only the east gable remains, some 30 yards east of Teampull Mor; it has a single central window similar to those in the other church. Internally on the north side of the

¹ Howmore was a parsonage pertaining to the Abbot of Iona.—*Collect. de Rebus Alban*, p. 3.

² Martin. ³ Muir's *Ecclesiological Notes*, pp. 50, 51.

window is a rough corbel, probably for the altar, and on the south side an aumbry 10 inches high, $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad, and 1 foot $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. This church has been $18\frac{3}{4}$ feet broad; the side walls have been 2 feet and the gable is $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness.

The larger chapel (Fig. 159.) lies south of Teampull Mor. It is an oblong structure measuring 17 feet 2 inches by 11 feet 8 inches over walls 2 feet 8 inches in thickness. The entrance, which is in the east gable, has inclined jambs and measures 3 feet 2 inches in height, 1 foot $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width at the top and 2 feet at the bottom. Above the entrance is a window only 3 inches wide and 1 foot $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches high; there is a similar window in each of the side walls.

The remaining chapel (O.S. *Caibeal nan Sagairt*), the most easterly structure, is oblong on plan and measures 14 feet 11 inches by 8 feet internally; the walls are $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. The entrance, $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet wide and built with jambs slightly inclined, is in the east gable. The gables are steeply pitched and are complete; but the side walls are ruinous. In the north wall towards the west end has apparently been a recess. Traces of a window remain in the south wall.

ARMORIAL PANEL, ETC.—Against the inner face of the west gable of this chapel lies an armorial panel with triangular head. It bears in relief in the dexter base a lymphad with rudder, central mast and sail set; above this is a hand couped bearing a wheel-cross. In the sinister base is a castle and above it a lion rampant; in the centre and surmounting the whole is a bird on a thistle slip. Beside the panel is a fragment of stone bearing six close-set dog-tooth ornaments. (Fig. 122.)

South Uist l. 31 July 1924.

368. Carved Slab, Hallan Burying Ground.—In the older and lower part of the graveyard at Hallan, to the north-west of Daliburgh, is a grave slab of dark blue schist, measuring 5 feet 7 inches in length, 15 inches in width at the top, and 12 inches at the bottom. A double flat moulding is cut round the edge of the stone, and the panel so formed, except about 5 inches at the top and bottom which are blank, is filled with an interlaced foliaceous design, the leaves being small. The ornamentation is badly

weathered.—(See Muir's *Ecclesiological Notes*, p. 281).

CROSS SLAB.—A rough slab of gneiss of irregular, rectangular shape, 2 feet 7 inches high and 1 foot 7 inches broad, used as the headstone of a grave, has a simple Latin cross, 9 inches long by 5 inches broad, incised on one face, slightly to the right of, and above, the centre of the stone.

South Uist lv. 18 June 1915.

CASTLES.

369. Castle Calvay.—Castle Calvay is situated at the mouth of Lochboisdale on an islet separated only at high tide from Calvay Island, to

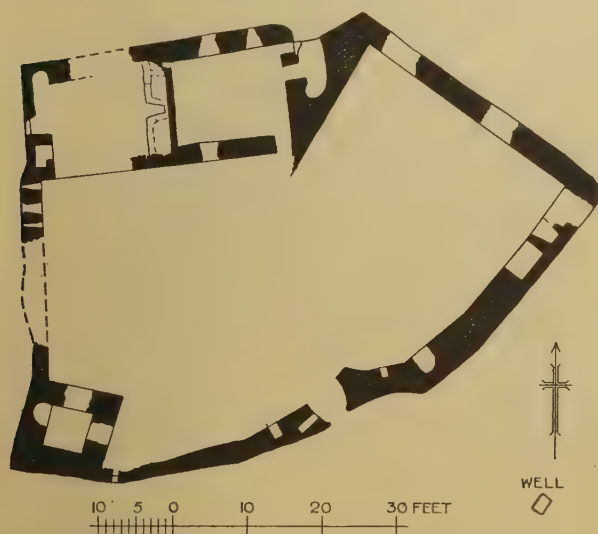


FIG. 156.—Castle Calvay (No. 369).

which it has been linked by a causeway; near by is a little natural harbour. The site is a rock and the summit is almost entirely covered by the castle, which consists of an irregularly shaped enclosure of indeterminate date, measuring 51 feet from north to south by 70 feet from east to west within walls now standing to an average height of 12 feet and having a maximum width of 5 feet. The masonry is a rough rubble built in shell lime mortar, and slabs of stone are in some places bedded on edge. (Fig. 154.)

The entrance, which has a barhole and is 3 feet wide, lies to the south; almost in front of it is a roughly built well. Within the enclosure are the remains of a series of structures built against and incorporating the curtains. While

all are fragmentary and obscured by debris, the buildings against the north curtain have suffered less than the other parts and were evidently two storeys in height; at their eastern end a passage runs through to an opening in the curtain, perhaps a side door or postern. The little square structure at the south-west angle of the enclosure may have been a "pit"; contiguous to it is a flue, probably from a latrine.

South Uist lviii. 4 August 1924.

370. Ormaclett Castle.—The remains of this house, a residence of the chief of Clanranald, which was built in 1701 and burnt in 1715,¹ are situated within a farm steading $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Howmore and $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-north-west of Lochboisdale. It is two storeys and an attic in height, and is built on a T-shaped plan, with the main block, which measures 69 feet by 25 feet over all, running north-east and south-west, and the wing, 21 by 22 feet, projecting southwards. The main block is divided by a stone partition into two unequal parts, and the larger has probably been subdivided by timber partitions and provided with a wooden stair. (Fig. 155.)

The masonry is of harled rubble with dressings of freestone, evidently imported. The gables are steeply pitched. The upper windows,

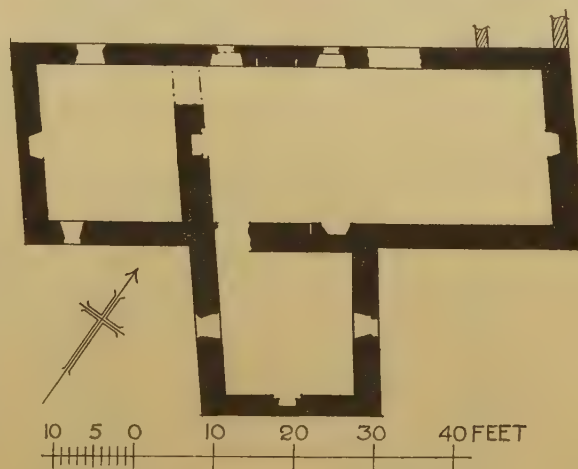


FIG. 157.—Ormaclett Castle (No. 370).

which are less destroyed than those in the ground floor, have a splay wrought on jambs

¹ *Clan Donald*, II., p. 344

and lintels, the latter having slightly curved soffits. The attic was lit by dormers, now destroyed. The entrance is represented by a wide slapping in the north wall. Above is an armorial panel representing a helm, mantling and shield, the latter being parted per pale and charged in the upper dexter corner with a lion rampant above a hand couped, grasping a cross. The charge in the upper sinister corner is obliterated, but it may be either a burning mountain or more probably a castle, and below is a lymphad. These charges are inverted on the stone at Howmore (No. 367).

The contiguous building on the west, comprising a single storey and a loft, contains a large kitchen fireplace with segmental arch $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide.

South Uist liii. 3 August 1924.

371. Caisteal Bheagram.—In the middle of Loch an Eilein, which is a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of Howmore, is a circular island, about 80 yards in diameter, bearing on its highest part the ruin of a small tower. The island has been enclosed by a wall at the water line, now represented by foundation, and within the enclosure are foundations of other buildings lying west of the tower. The tower now stands to a height of $12\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and has contained at least two storeys. It is built of random rubble in shell lime mortar, and has been harled; it is oblong on plan, measuring internally $12\frac{3}{4}$ by $10\frac{1}{4}$ feet, the walls varying in thickness from $3\frac{3}{4}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Internally the angles are rounded. The entrance can be traced in the east wall with a small window alongside; two windows remain to the north and one to the west. These are only 7 inches square in daylight. The east end of the south wall is penetrated by a round opening $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. (Fig. 160.)

Ronald Alansoun of "Yland-Bagrim" or "Ylanebigorn" appears on record in 1505 and 1508.¹

¹ *Reg. Mag. Sig.; Reg. Sec. Sig.*, Vol. I., Nos. 1662, 1690.

South Uist l. 31 July 1924.

372. Weaver's Castle, Stack Islands.—Eilean Leathan, the largest and most southerly of the Stack Islands off the south coast of Eriskay, is shaped roughly like an hour-glass, the larger

northern part being low, while the southern portion rises steeply to an altitude of 144 feet and is defined by a deep gully terminating at each end in a narrow inlet, the eastern forming a natural harbour. On the steep slope above the landing are remains of walling, evidently the seating of a crane or hoist. On the summit is a fragment of a tiny rectangular tower built of rubble in lime mortar. The building measures $12\frac{1}{4}$ feet from east to west, by $9\frac{3}{4}$ feet from north to south, within walls $4\frac{1}{4}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness. The north-east corner stands to a height of $15\frac{1}{2}$ feet; the other walls are 4 feet above their foundation.

Barra, lxiii. 8 August 1924.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(PROBABLE BROCHS.)

373. Dun Buidhe, Ardnamonie.—Dun Buidhe occupies a slight knoll almost surrounded by marshy ground, some 500 yards north of Ardnamonie, and some 600 yards west north-west of Dun na Buail-uachdraich (No. 374). Not only is it in a ruinous state, but the structure is encroached upon by late buildings and enclosure walls. Except towards the north the foundation course of the outer face of the wall can be traced round the building, and towards the east several courses remain in position. The only part of the inner face of the wall which is not hidden by the rubbish accumulated in the interior, is a short length of about 6 feet on the north-east, under which the lintel stone of a door leading into a chamber or passage in the wall can be detected. As the doorway is blocked with debris, its dimensions are not ascertainable. The dun is circular and measures 54 feet in diameter externally, the wall at one part showing a thickness of some 12 feet 6 inches. The mound is about 9 feet high at most. All indications point to this having been a broch.

South Uist xlviii. 5 July 1915.

374. Dun na Buail'-uachdraich.—Some 200 yards south of the school at Buail'-uachdraich, near Carnan, is a small loch called Loch Dun na Buail'-uachdraich, the southern end of which terminates in swampy ground. On a mound in this reedy swamp formed by the lowering of the outfall from the loch, is



FIG. 158—Cup-marked Stone, Hacklett, Benbecula (No. 355).



FIG. 159—Chapel south of Teampull Mor, Howmore (No. 367).



FIG. 160—Caisteal Bheagram (No. 371).



FIG. 161—Interior of Gable, Teampull Mor, Howmore (No. 367).

Dun na Buail'-uachdraich. This has been a circular stone-walled fort, but the whole of the northern half has been removed, and all that remains is a semicircular bank of stone and earth on the southern side, more than 12 feet broad and some 5 feet in height. The dun has been about 50 feet in diameter externally. Two and three courses of the outer face of the wall are undisturbed, and these show all the characteristics of broch building. There has been an outer wall surrounding the main defence, but it is also greatly dilapidated, and only the southern half of the circle is traceable. Its remains form a ring of stones about 10 feet in width, at a distance varying from 30 to 45 feet from the inner wall.

South Uist xlviii. 5 July 1915.

(DUNS.)

375. **Dun Vulcan, Rudha Ardvule, Bornish.**—Projecting into the Atlantic about 1 mile west of Bornish, and about 8 miles north-north-west of Lochboisdale, is a low, sandy peninsula, Rudha Ardvule, the greater part of which is occupied by a shallow loch. On the summit of the storm-ridge of shingle, thrown up to a height of barely 10 feet above high-water mark, between the southern shore of the peninsula and the loch, and towards the eastern end of the latter, are the ruins of Dun Vulcan, a circular or slightly oval fort measuring about 56 feet in diameter externally from north-west to south-east, the wall on the south being built among the shingle, and on the north within 5 feet of the inland loch. The outer face of the wall is quite broken down on the south-west, but the foundation course is traceable on the eastern arc, and towards the north-east three courses remain in position. The inner portion of the wall remains about 5 feet in height, but its building is obscured by a more recent structure erected in the interior of the dun. The wall of the fort is about 11 feet thick on the north and 15 feet on the east. Within the wall, some 4 feet 3 inches from the inner face on the north-east, a short line of building is seen, as if there had been a gallery within its thickness at this part. It is impossible to determine the position of the entrance.

The later structure inside the dun is built towards the western side, its main axis running north and south. It is an irregular oval, some-

what kidney-shaped on plan, the western wall curving inwards slightly at the centre; it measures 18 feet in length and 14 feet 8 inches in breadth, its wall, which is 5 feet high, being 3 feet to 5 feet thick. The entrance, 4 feet 9 inches wide, is in the east, and the northern wall of the entrance is continued outwards in a southern curve for a distance of 10 feet, when it runs into the line of the inner face of the wall of the original dun.

South Uist lii. 24 August 1914.

376. **Dun Uiselan, Ollag.**—In the south-eastern corner of Loch Uiselan, a small loch to a large extent overgrown with reeds, some 500 yards west-north-west of Ollag, near Carnan, are the ruins of Dun Uiselan. It is an oval mound of stones, 8 feet in height, measuring some 68 feet from east-north-east to west-south-west, and about 50 feet across. No building is discernible, and it is covered with a plentiful growth of brambles and fern. Apparently the level of the loch has been lowered, as the remains of a long causeway, standing entirely above water, lead from the dun for some 35 yards to the south-east, and then, after turning at an obtuse angle in a more southerly direction, continues to a rocky knoll some 25 yards farther on.

South Uist xlviii. 6 July 1915.

377. **Dun, Loch an Duin, Bornish.**—Some 7 miles north-north-west of Lochboisdale, in Loch an Duin, near Bornish, is a small island lying about 30 yards from the western shore. The central part of the islet has been occupied by a dun, which has been almost obliterated by the erection of two sheepfolds and divisional walls on a portion of its site. The only piece of the original structure now traceable is part of the northern arc of the wall showing through a covering of grass. The dun has probably been circular with an approximate internal diameter of 30 feet, the wall being about 8 feet thick.

The island is connected with the western shore of the loch by a causeway, now much dilapidated, about 30 yards long.

South Uist liii. 24 August 1914.

378. **Dun Altabrug, Loch Altabrug, Stoney-bridge.**—About 11 miles north-north-west of Lochboisdale, to the north of the township of

Stoneybridge, is Loch Altabrug, near the north-east corner of which is a small island rising about 3 feet above the loch, and occupied by the ruins of Dun Altabrug. The main building of the dun occupies the southern portion of the island, the wall to the south being built on the water's edge. It is slightly oval on plan and measures 31 feet internally from east to west and 27 feet from north to south, the wall on the south being about 9 feet thick and on the north and west about 12 feet. In the interior the wall shows an average height of 4 feet above the present floor level. On the outside it is broken down on the north and west, but on the south, though much obscured by fallen stones, it remains in position for a height of about 5 feet, the inner half of the wall at this part standing 4 feet higher. The entrance, which has been destroyed, runs through the wall in a north by east direction and is about 3 feet broad. Between it and the north-eastern edge of the island is a courtyard surrounded by the remains of a stone wall, about 6 feet broad, and now rising about 2 feet to 4 feet in height, which, springing from the main building at the edge of the loch on the west, follows the water's edge round to the east, where it returns sharply at a distance of 15 feet to meet the wall of the dun, the space enclosed in places reaching a width of 40 feet.

The remains of a causeway with an intervening rock near its centre connect the dun with the northern shore of the loch; these measure some 33 yards in length, about 16 yards of the landward end being now above the water level.

South Uist I. 25 August 1914.

(LATE DUNS.)

379. Dun, Eilean an Staoir, Milton.—Immediately to the south of the farm of Milton, about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Lochboisdale, is Loch Eilean an Staoir, near whose southern shore is a small island from which the loch takes its name. On the island are the remains of a dun, the wall of which shows as a tumbled mass of stone, rising about 8 feet above the surface of the water. A small part of the outer face of the wall is seen on the western side, the inner face and the remaining portion of the outer face being obscured by fallen debris.

The fort seems to have been oval on plan, with an approximate external diameter of some 50 feet from east to west and some 42 feet from north to south, a space varying from 15 to 25 feet intervening between the wall and the water's edge.

On the north-north-west side of the islet is a well-built, submerged boat harbour, the western pier of which extends some 15 feet into the loch, showing a very regular width of 7 feet 6 inches of careful paving; while the eastern pier, which is built about 6 feet distant at the entrance, diminishing to a distance of 2 feet 8 inches at the inner end, is of irregular shape but also carefully paved. On the southern edge of the island a short arc of the foundation course of a circular building is also traceable.

South Uist lv. 22 August 1914.

380. Dun Raouill, Loch Druidibeg.—About 13 miles north of Lochboisdale is Loch Druidibeg, a loch of large area and devious ramifications, and studded with many islets. One of these islets, about 80 yards from the southern shore of the loch, is occupied by a fort, Dun Raouill, which not only is of a very uncommon type but is the best preserved of the South Uist duns. Rectangular on plan and built of

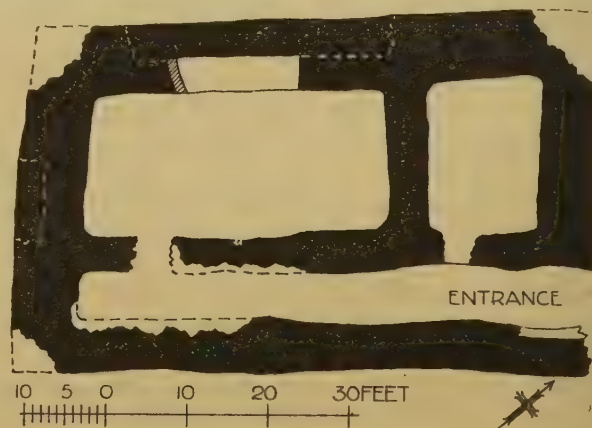


FIG. 162. —Dun Raouill (No. 380).

good drystone masonry, with its main axis running about north-east and south-west, it measures 71 feet in length externally by 42 feet in breadth. (Fig. 167.) Its massive walls, some 8 feet 4 inches thick on the north-west and south-west and 6 feet 6 inches on the north-east and south-east, attain a general height

of from 6 to 8 feet above the foundation, which is laid about 1 foot higher than the level of the loch. Generally the wall is well preserved except at the corners, which have collapsed outwards. The foundation course is built of large blocks which project about 1 foot 6 inches on the south-west and about 6 inches on the north-east. In the interior the wall shows a height of about 4 feet above the fallen debris, and on the north-west and north-east it looks as if crowned by a breastwork on its outer side, 4 feet wide and 2 feet 9 inches high in places, which rises above an intake on the thicker wall below. This, however, is probably merely a ledge to carry the roof of the house built along these sides (cf. *Introd.*, p. xl). This portion has also been worked over to make butts for sportsmen shooting the wild geese.

The entrance, 8 feet wide in the southern end of the north-east wall, is well preserved, on its south side standing 5 feet in height, and on the north side 3 feet. (Fig. 124.)

The interior of the dun is divided into two rectangular compartments entered from a passage which runs the full width of the entrance along the inside of the south-eastern wall. The divisional walls show a height of 4 feet above the fallen stones in the interior and measure 5 feet in width. In both chambers the corners are carefully rounded, at which places the building is very fine. The largest chamber, 38 feet in length and 18 feet in breadth, occupies the angle formed by the north-west and south-west walls of the dun, the entrance, quite obscured by fallen stones, being about 8 feet from the western end of its south-eastern wall. The smaller chamber lies transversely across the fort in the space between the larger chamber and the north-eastern wall of the dun; it measures 19 feet 3 inches in length and 13 feet 3 inches in breadth, the entrance, about 2 feet 6 inches wide, being in the southern corner.

Opposite the entrance to the dun the shelving bed of the loch has been cleared of stones, and there is an irregular setting of large boulders extending about 15 feet into the loch in the line of the south-eastern wall, possibly a boat harbour.

South Uist I. 27 August 1914.

381. Dun, Loch Druim an Iasgair, Carnan.—Near the middle of Loch Druim an Iasgair, a

small loch about $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles south-south-east of the post office at Carnan, is a small island occupied by a dun in a better state of preservation than the usual Hebridean fort. The island is inaccessible except by boat, as the loch is deep and no causeway is even discernible. It is an irregular oval on plan, and along the main axis from east to west measures some 54 feet 6 inches internally, while it is 36 feet across. The defences consist of a wall of dry-stone masonry built for the greater part round the margin of the islet, but at the east end the water penetrates into the interior a distance of several feet, as if the outlet of the loch had silted up to some extent since the dun was built. The wall, which maintains a general height of about 5 feet above the water, at the west end is 6 feet high, but at several places it has collapsed. The breadth of the wall at the base is about 5 feet, and there is a slight narrowing towards the top, which is crowned by a breastwork on the outer edge. The remains of this parapet are visible on the flanks and eastern end, and now stand about 18 inches high, with a width of about 2 feet. (Fig. 129.)

There are two entrances into the fort, on the north and south sides, the former to the east of the centre and the latter slightly to the west of it. The northern entrance, though dilapidated, is clearly defined, showing a width of 5 feet 6 inches at the outside and 4 feet 9 inches at the inside. The wall on the east side is reduced to a height of 3 feet. At the foot of the wall on the outside, some 4 feet east of this entrance, is a well-built lintelled opening penetrating about half-way through the building, and opposite it, on the inside, is a curvilinear cavity in the wall 2 feet 3 inches broad and 2 feet 9 inches deep. This recess, though partly filled with loose stones, has the appearance of a latrine. The entrance on the south flank is 5 feet wide and presents uncommon features. On the east side the wall, which is 4 feet 3 inches thick, projects about 6 feet outside the alignment of the wall on the west of the entrance, but, about 7 feet before the east jamb is reached, it curves inwards until its inner face is in line with the outer corner of the western jamb, which is contracted to a width of 3 feet.

Within the western end of the enceinte, hidden by ferns and brambles, are the ruins of a number of stone buildings, apparently circular

or oval. Only one is clearly defined, and it abuts on the inside of the wall at the extreme western end. It is oval on plan, and measures 9 feet 3 inches in length internally from north to south, and 6 feet 3 inches in width, the wall showing about 4 feet of building above the stones which partly fill it. At its southern end there is a well-built oval recess, 2 feet 6 inches in depth and 2 feet in width, the wall of which stands 2 feet 6 inches in height.

South Uist xlviii. 30 June 1915.

382. Dun, Loch Cnoc a Buidhe, Mingary.—Towards the west side of Loch Cnoc a Buidhe, some $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles north-west of Lochboisdale by road, is a small grass-covered island rising about 2 feet above the water. With the exception of a small section on its western edge the whole area of the islet has been occupied by a dun, the scanty remains of which show the building to have been circular with a diameter of about 43 feet. Within the dun are the remains of a rectangular building, probably of later date, measuring some 16 feet from north to south and 13 feet from east to west internally, the wall of which, now about 5 feet thick, rises some 3 feet in height. The entrance to this later structure seems to have been in the southern end.

Though nearer the southern shore of the loch the dun is connected with the narrow promontory on the northern shore by a good causeway, 80 yards in length, and from 4 to 6 feet in breadth. The causeway is S-shaped, making a sharp double curve in its course.

South Uist lv. (unnoted). 20 August 1914.

383. Dun Mor, Loch an Duin Mhoir, Geirnish.—Dun Mor is a fortified islet of irregular, oval shape, measuring about 135 feet from east to west and 96 feet from north to south, lying some 45 yards from the northern shore of Loch an Duin Mhoir, which is situated immediately to the south of the township of West Geirnish. It is connected with a small promontory on the northern shore of the loch by a causeway, now dilapidated, the ends of which at least are never submerged. Though now spread over a greater width, it has probably been about 5 feet wide on the top, and at the centre makes a slight bulge towards the west. The tumbled remains of a stone wall, which has been built on the water's edge round the island,

cover a width of some 12 feet to a depth of more than 2 feet generally, but only on the south side is any building traceable. At this part a course of stones near the foundation of the outer face remains in position. The main building stands towards the south side of the islet, but it is in a great state of disrepair, and although the wall stands about 8 feet high above the outside level, and some 6 feet above the tumbled stones in the interior, little building can be detected beyond the lower courses on the outside. The wall is about 10 feet thick, and internally the dun, which is oval on plan, measures some 32 feet from north to south and 27 feet from east to west. A gap in the wall to the north-north-east probably indicates the position of the entrance. (Fig. 168.)

In the court between the main structure and the outer wall are the stone foundations of a number of small buildings, some rectangular on plan and others oval, which are likely of later date than the dun.

It is only a few years ago since this dun was pillaged to provide building stone for a new house in the neighbourhood.

South Uist xlviii. 26 June 1915.

384. Fortified Island, Dun na Killie, Eilean Buidhe, Loch Dunakillie.—Near the centre of Loch Dunakillie is the island of Eilean Buidhe, the site of a dun from which the loch takes its name. The island, some 120 feet in length from north-west to south-east, and some 97 feet from north-east to south-west, is surrounded by the remains of a stone wall of considerable strength, distributed over a width of 9 feet in places, and rising on the eastern side about 6 feet above the water-level and about 3 feet above the interior. In no place is the outer or inner face of the wall traceable, but between its base and the loch there is a width of about 10 feet of fallen stones above water-level.

In the interior of the dun, hidden by a luxuriant growth of vegetation, are the ruins of several structures, apparently of late date. In the southern corner is a rectangular building divided into two compartments, the larger to the east measuring 28 feet long and 14 feet broad internally, and the other about 17 feet 6 inches in length and the same breadth, the divisional and outer wall showing a width of about 3 feet. Abutting on the inside of the



FIG. 163—Chambered Cairn, Airidh na h-Aon Oidhche (No. 350)



FIG. 164—Entrance to Passage, Earth-house, Uinish (No. 395).



FIG. 165—Chambered Cairn, Stiaraval (No. 351).

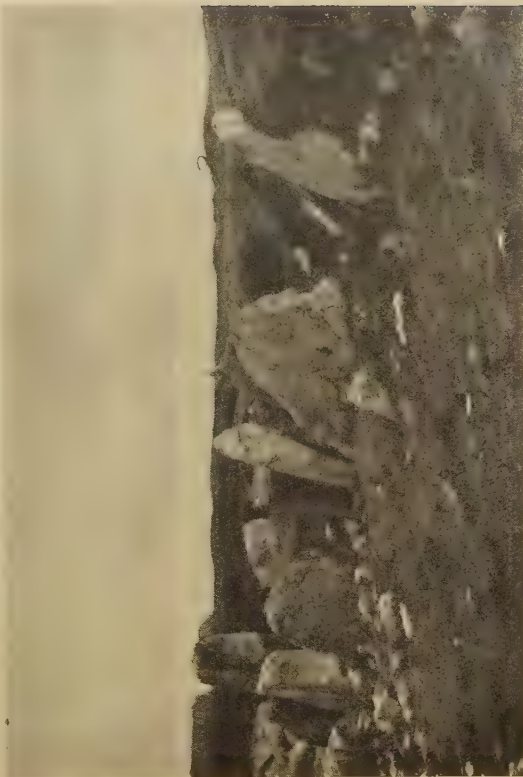


FIG. 166—Chambered Cairn, Sig More, Carnan (No. 385).

wall to the north-east are other two buildings, the more northerly measuring 19 feet long and 12 feet broad, and the more southerly about 12 feet square.

Between the dun and the eastern side of the loch, a distance of nearly 200 yards, is a massive causeway about 9 feet broad, submerged for the greater part, which at first takes a sweep to the north after leaving the shore, and then follows a tortuous course to the northern corner of the island. There is said to be a gap in it under the water.

At the northern corner of the dun there is a submerged harbour, the eastern wall of which extends about 18 feet from the edge of the island and then curves towards the west. Near the centre of the south-western side of the island there is a gap in the wall with possible indications of another harbour.

Some 25 yards north of the landward end of the causeway, on the shore of the loch, are the foundations of a building, the main axis running directly up from the loch towards east-north-east and measuring about 30 feet in length. The landward end seems to have been of circular shape and 10 feet in diameter. From this part a setting of flat stones, each about 2 feet in length, extends for a distance of 18 feet from the wall of the building.

South Uist lvii. 28 August 1914.

CAIRNS.

385. Chambered Cairn, Sig More, Carnan.—

About 25 yards from the eastern shore of Sig More, or Ceann Langavat, just before it enters the South Ford, about 1 mile south-east of the post office at Carnan, on a rocky knoll, which is a tidal islet only during the highest tides, is a denuded chambered cairn. Most of the stones have been removed, leaving a stony mound about 5 feet in height at the most, in the eastern side of which is the ruined chamber of the long cist, or perhaps segmented, class. The cairn has been surrounded by a circle of standing stones or slabs set up on the margin. Those which have not been carried off remain overthrown amongst other boulders near their original positions. Fourteen large stones, five on the south half and nine on the north half, have evidently been marginal slabs.

They are all of considerable size; the largest, which lies in the south, is an irregular slab measuring diagonally 9 feet 7 inches by 5 feet 9 inches. Measured to the outside of the fallen slabs, the cairn is 69 feet from north to south, and 65 feet 6 inches from east to west. (Fig. 166.)

The chamber has been formed by two roughly parallel rows of slabs set on edge, with the spaces between filled in with drystone building. At the eastern end of the chamber, near its entrance, is a rough four-sided pillar stone, 5 feet in height and 5 feet 3 inches in girth at the base, placed some distance within the outer ring of stones. The chamber extends some 21 feet 4 inches, from the pillar, almost due west, towards the interior of the cairn. Four of the slabs on its northern side remain near, if not in, their original places; on the opposite side only two slabs are seen. Some 3 feet 8 inches from the pillar, two stones placed across the chamber, with a space 1 foot 7 inches wide between them, probably indicate the portal, as behind them the chamber is about 4 feet 6 inches in width. Possibly the chamber may have been divided into two compartments, as near its centre two of the side slabs converge to within 1 foot 3 inches of each other at their eastern ends, although the general width of this compartment seems to have been over 3 feet. The largest side slab measures 4 feet 3 inches in length and 2 feet 7 inches in height. Lying to the north-east of the erect pillar are five other tumbled monoliths.

South Uist xlviii (unnoted). 6 July 1915.

386. Cairn, Tigh Cloiche, Carnan Iochdar.—

Barely $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-south-west of the southern end of the South Ford, at Carnan Iochdar, and some 170 yards east of the main road through the island, on rolling moorland, at an elevation some 20 feet above sea-level, is a cairn of stones known as Tigh Cloiche, which has been considerably disturbed. On the summit, on its western edge, and in the near neighbourhood, are the ruins of small houses or shielings built of stones removed from the cairn. It is nearly circular and now measures about 54 feet in diameter and 6 feet in height. It is surrounded by a broad hollow on the north, east and south, some 30 feet wide at least at the bottom, which possibly has been excavated, thus providing a plat on which to erect the cairn. There is a

considerable amount of soil among the stones, but the structure is so dilapidated that it is impossible to detect any marginal setting of stones or traces of a chamber.

South Uist xlviii (unnoted). 25 June 1915.

387. Chambered Cairn, Barp, Loch a Bharp.—On a level stretch of moor about 100 yards north-west of the north-western arm of Loch a Bharp, and about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles north-west of Lochboisdale, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, is a barp or chambered cairn. The surface of the cairn has been much disturbed, and about 20 feet of the southern portion of the cairn has almost entirely been removed, destroying the entrance passage and exposing the chamber, which is now almost full of stones. The cairn has been almost circular, measuring about 86 feet in diameter, and it attains a height of 19 feet. It has been encircled by a number of slabs set on end round the edge at irregular intervals. Twelve of these, measuring up to 3 feet in height by 2 feet 9 inches in breadth, remain in position, seven on the west side and five on the east. (Fig. 169.)

The chamber, which is either circular or oval on plan, occupies almost the centre of the cairn. The western arc, built of large blocks of stone converging inwards towards the top, remains in position and shows a diameter of at least 12 feet; a large erect slab placed at the southern end of the arc stands 5 feet above the stones in which it is embedded, and beside it is a displaced lintel, 9 feet 3 inches long, 1 foot 10 inches broad, and 2 feet thick, while another still in position across the northern part of the chamber is 8 feet long and 1 foot 4 inches thick. Possible indications of a smaller chamber opening out of the main chamber are seen in a cavity on the west side. A considerable number of large blocks and lintel stones are scattered on the southern slope of the mound. Between the chamber and the southern edge of the cairn are three slabs set on end, apparently marking one side of the entrance passage which has measured at least 35 feet in length. The two largest slabs stand 5 feet and 4 feet above the fallen stones and measure 1 foot 2 inches and 2 feet 3 inches in breadth respectively.

South Uist lv. 19 August 1914.

388. Chambered Cairn, Barp Frobost.—About 1000 yards east of the fifth milestone on the road going north from Lochboisdale and some 70 yards from the right bank of the burn flowing down from Rudha Greannach, in the angle formed by the junction of another stream from the north-east, is a chambered cairn, Barp Frobost, occupying the summit of one of the numerous rocky knowes between the stream and the hills to the east, the elevation being about 50 feet above sea-level.

The cairn is much dilapidated, many stones having been removed, especially from the north side, and on the north and western margins are ruined shielings. It has been a circular cairn, the outline being marked by a number of upright slabs, of which four, measuring at most 2 feet 9 inches in height above the surface, remain on the eastern side and two on the west. The diameter is about 80 feet, and the height above the boundary stones is now only 10 feet. The chamber, which lies near the centre of the structure, has been opened, and is now full of earth and stones; the displaced cover stone, a large flag of irregular shape, measures 8 feet 4 inches in length, 5 feet 5 inches in breadth, and 11 inches in thickness. There is nothing to indicate the position of the entrance passage.

South Uist lv. 20 August 1914.

389. Chambered Cairn, Barp, Reineval.—Nearly 5 miles north-west of Lochboisdale, on the northern slope of Reineval, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile north of Barp Frobost (No. 388), and some 300 yards from the southern shore of Loch an Ath Ruaidh, is a fairly well preserved chambered cairn, almost circular in shape and measuring some 78 feet from north to south and about 73 feet from east to west, its height being about 12 feet. It has been surrounded by a ring of pillar stones set up among the stones on the edge of the cairn, with their tops inclining slightly inwards. Of these six remain in position on the north-western arc, one on the south-west and four on the east. The distance between the standing stones on the north-west arc varies from 4 feet 4 inches to 12 feet, and they measure from 3 to 7 feet in height and from 1 foot 3 inches to 3 feet in breadth.

The surface of the cairn has been disturbed in many places, and towards the east a large

slab 6 feet long, 4 feet 8 inches broad, and 1 foot 3 inches thick, probably the cover stone of the chamber, is exposed. A short length of the entrance passage running slightly south of east can be traced, two erect slabs in juxtaposition on the south side being visible. It is some 2 feet 10 inches wide. (Fig. 170.)

South Uist lv. 20 August 1914.

390. Chambered Cairn, Barp, Glac Hukarvat.—On the brow of a sharp brae at the top of the short, broad glen, Glac Hukarvat, between Haarsal and Meall Hukarvat, rather more than $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east of Howmore school, at an elevation of 200 feet above sea-level, is a ruined chambered cairn. The view is restricted on all sides except down the glen towards the north-north-west, where a maze of lochs and the Atlantic beyond with intervening machairs are seen. The area occupied by the cairn has been levelled preparatory to its erection, the excavated hollow on the higher or southern side measuring some 30 feet in width.

The cairn has been considerably despoiled of stones on the summit and towards the southern and eastern sides, laying bare the central chamber, which has also been badly handled. The cairn seems to have been circular with a diameter of about 65 feet; it is reduced to a height of about 7 feet, measured from the west side, but one of the large upright slabs forming the chamber rises about 5 feet higher. Round the boundary of the cairn there has been a setting of upright stones, the general height of the survivors being about 2 feet 9 inches. Five remain in position on the west and one on the south-east; other five displaced slabs lying round the eastern arc are probably part of this setting.

The chamber in the cairn has been formed of upright slabs, and has probably been circular, but the stones have been displaced and the present diameter is about 13 feet. Amongst the debris which has fallen into it is an irregularly shaped slab 4 feet 8 inches long, 4 feet 5 inches broad, and 12 inches thick, and scattered over the present summit of the cairn outside the chamber are at least twenty-five large blocks and lintels, some of which attain a length of 6 feet. The entrance passage has been destroyed, but it seems to have been either in the south or east side of the cairn.

South Uist l. 25 August 1914.

HUT CIRCLES.

391. Hut Circles, Loch Greanabreck.—About 100 yards south of the dun (No 423), on a shelf of ground between the loch and the bank, which rises about 6 to 10 feet above it, is a group of stone foundations of small enclosures resembling hut circles. The largest is almost circular, measuring 16 feet 6 inches from north-east to south-west internally, and 15 feet from north-west to south-east, the entrance being towards the south-east; at distances of about 11 and 20 yards to the north-west are two others, the first, 9 feet in diameter, with an opening towards the loch, and the second, oval in shape, measuring 6 feet in length by 4 feet 6 inches in breadth. Some 12 feet to the south-east of the largest is a circle, 6 feet in diameter, with a smaller circle opening out of it to the south-east, 5 feet in diameter. About 30 yards beyond the last is an oval foundation 8 feet long and 6 feet broad, with an impinging structure on the south 5 feet long by 4 feet broad. Some of the circles are overgrown with grass, but the stones forming the largest stand about 1 foot to 1 foot 6 inches above ground.

South Uist lv. 31 August 1914.

392. Hut Circle, Loch Cnoc a Buidhe.—On a knowe about 30 feet higher than, and 70 yards east of the south end of, Loch Cnoc a Buidhe, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, is a hut circle slightly flattened along the western side formed of blocks of stone. The wall is about 3 feet wide and 2 feet high. From north-north-west to south-south-east it measures 23 feet internally and is 19 feet wide. Impinging on the outside of the circle at the north-west and north are two oval chambers 8 feet in length by 6 feet in breadth.

South Uist lv. 24 August 1914.

EARTH-HOUSES.

393. Earth-houses, Loch Sheilavaig, Calternish.—In a hollow at the head of a gully running south-west from the inmost recess of Bagh a Tuath, a loch on the south side of the mouth of Loch Sheilavaig, about 150 yards from the first mentioned loch, and about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles north-east of the pier on Loch Skipport, is a ruined earth-house. Situated in rough country, it

occupies a very secluded position at the foot of a face of rock rising some 30 feet above it to the south. The building exposed is only a fragment of the structure. There seems to have been a circular earth-house divided into compartments by radiating walls, possibly like the example at Usinish (No. 395), but only a small section of the south-western arc of the inside of the outer wall is to be seen, with a wall extending towards the centre, which is only traceable for a distance of 2 feet 6 inches, its width varying from 3 feet to 2 feet as it approaches the centre. Between it and the outer wall is a lintelled passage 1 foot 3 inches in width. Opening out of this structure towards the north-west, with its southern wall running tangentially from the curved wall just described, is a carefully built passage, covered by lintels 6 inches under the surface, measuring 2 feet 5 inches in width, and filled with debris and water to within 1 foot 8 inches of the roof. A broken opening into this passage lies 5 feet 2 inches from the radial wall already mentioned, and the tunnel continues for a length of 7 feet in perfect condition. Here there is a break in the roof, 1 foot 3 inches wide, and beyond it the passage is filled with rubbish. It trends towards a heap of stones, the centre of which is 14 feet distant. Extending north-east for some 50 feet is a mound of tumbled stones containing the foundations of rude huts, in parts covered by kitchen-midden refuse, in which there are many limpet shells, the depth of this deposit measuring about 10 inches.

South Uist li. 3 July 1915.

394. Earth-house, Scalavat, Usinish.—The earth-house described by Captain Thomas about forty years ago, which at that time was in such a state of preservation as to exhibit many interesting features, is now only a shapeless heap of tumbled stones showing hardly as much building as to indicate the character of the structure.

The earth-house had been built at Scalavat, on a ridge running down in an easterly direction from the base of Ben Scalavat, as the eastern shoulder of Hecla is named. It lies at an elevation of some 300 feet above sea-level, and appears as a heap of stones, on the summit of which is a small sheep enclosure or shieling. The only structure noticeable is

the entrance passage on the north side of the mound. Some 3 feet of its length, half full of stones, with well built sides and lintelled roof, remain in position. At the mouth it is 1 foot 9 inches wide, but towards the interior the walls diverge slightly. It runs in a direction slightly to the west of south, and appears to rise gradually as it penetrates the mound of stones.

About 700 yards north of this site on a somewhat similar ridge is a heap of stones, measuring about 60 feet across and 10 feet in height. It possibly has been the site of a prehistoric building, but if so all traces of it have been obliterated during the construction of later buildings, shielings and enclosures, erected on the slopes.

South Uist li. 16 June 1915.

395 and 396. Earth-houses, Usinish.—On the north side of Glen Usinish, on a steep hillside some 100 yards south of the precipitous face of Maoladh na h-Uamha, the south-eastern spur of Hecla, which towers above it, at an elevation of 400 feet above sea-level, and about $\frac{3}{8}$ mile from the shore of the Minch, is an earth-house in a much dilapidated condition and partly hidden by bracken. It was described by Captain Thomas in 1867 in *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol VII., p. 165 ff. (Fig. 164.)

In its present condition the structure appears as a circular building, some 26 feet in diameter internally, with small, oval, domical cells ranged around the inside of the wall and divided from each other by stone walls radiating from the centre of the building. The central portion and the southern half only shows a mass of loose stones, but around the northern arc five cells are traceable, the central cell, and the one next it to the west, being well enough preserved to show the shape and style of construction. The divisional walls terminate some 2 feet 3 inches from the outer wall, leaving a lintelled passage between the cells about 2 feet 3 inches high above the debris on the floor. Three of these communicating passages remain in a good state of preservation, those between the two cells just mentioned and leading from them into those adjoining. The beehive style of building is still clearly indicated in the central cell and its neighbour on the west, which measure 6 feet 9 inches in length by 6 feet 3 inches



FIG 168—Dun Mor, Geirnish (No. 383).



FIG. 170—Chambered Cairn, Barp, Reineval (No. 389).



FIG. 167—Dun Raouill (No. 380).

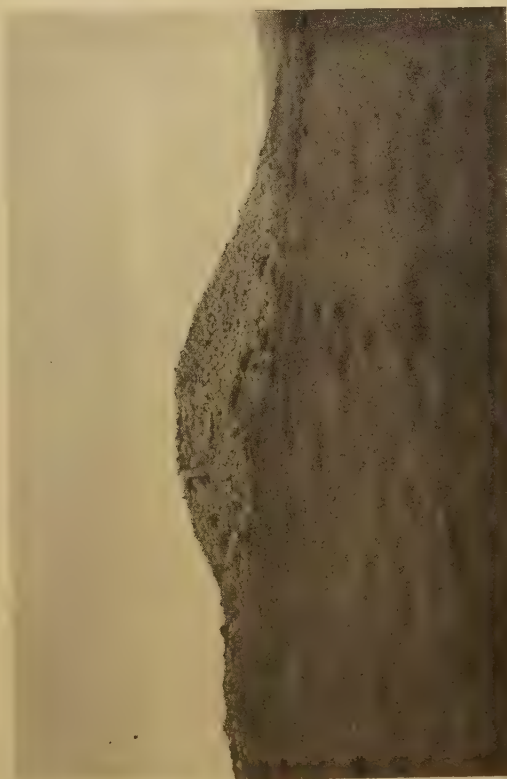


FIG. 169—Chambered Cairn, Barp, Loch a Bharp (No. 387).

in breadth, and 6 feet 6 inches in length by 4 feet 9 inches in breadth, respectively, while the best preserved portions of their wall stand 4 feet and 5 feet 6 inches high. The best preserved dividing wall is reduced to a height of 2 feet 4 inches, and it is 1 foot 5 inches broad. How far it extended into the interior cannot be determined. On the floor level of the central chamber a well built opening in the outer wall, 1 foot 9 inches square, gives



FIG. 171.—Earth-house, Usinish (No. 395).

access to a passage, 2 feet in length, from which a short tunnel strikes off to the east for a distance of 4 feet 8 inches, its height being 2 feet 3 inches and its breadth 3 feet 3 inches; to the left there is a finely built, lintelled passage, which curves round to the north and east, and terminates in a fine domical cell, 14 feet from the entrance; the floor of the cell is usually covered with several inches of mud and water. The passage varies slightly in size from 2 feet 6 inches high and 3 feet broad, near the entrance, to 2 feet 9 inches high and 2 feet 6 inches broad, at its inner end. The cell

is oval, and measures 7 feet 6 inches in height, 6 feet 3 inches in length, and 5 feet 5 inches in breadth. It is roughly built and the sides converge all round till they can be covered with lintels. On the left hand, after entering, is a large lintelled recess 4 feet 3 inches in height, 1 foot 5 inches broad, and about the same in depth. In the main building there are two recesses in the outer wall of the western of the two best preserved central chambers. The largest, which is 2 feet 6 inches from the floor, measures 1 foot 7 inches in height, 1 foot 3 inches in breadth, and 3 feet in depth, while the smaller, which is placed 2 feet to the west, is 1 foot 2 inches square and 2 feet 3 inches deep.

The entrance to the main structure cannot be detected, as the outer wall is simply a ring of tumbled stones, about 2 feet high, overgrown with ferns and heather, but impinging on its inner face on the south-west there is a broken, circular, beehive shaped cell, 4 feet 6 inches in diameter, the wall of which shows 3 feet of building in the inside, and beyond it and further to the south, some 16 feet from the inside of the main wall, there is a short section of what seems to have been a straight wall.

There is a considerable number of ruined shielings near the earth-house, some 30 yards to the east-north-east, and rather higher up the hill are the remains of a circular building showing only the inner face of the wall on its northern arc. It seems to have been some 20 feet in diameter internally, and as the stones used in its construction are often large, and the building is good, it is doubtless of much greater age than the shielings which are built inside and around it.

At the top of a gully amongst the tumbled stones at the foot of the talus under the cliff, some 30 yards north-west of the earth-house, there are further indeterminate ruins, among which there apparently have been several beehive cells. One of these, about 6 feet in diameter, shows a height of 2 feet 6 inches of good building on one side. From the ruins a built passage carefully lintelled, 2 feet 6 inches in height, 1 foot 4 inches in width at its narrowest part, and 3 feet in length, leads into a chamber, formed under a huge slab fallen from the cliff above, and measuring about 17 feet in length, 7 feet at greatest breadth, and up to

4 feet in thickness. The vacancies under the edge of the slab have been closed by rough building.

South Uist liv. 29 June 1915.

397. Earth-house, Tigh nan Leacach, Bealach a' Chaolais, Stulaval.—In a stony mound overgrown with ferns at the base of the steep western slope of Eligar, on the eastern side of Bealach a' Chaolais, the pass between Stulaval and Eligar, about 300 yards north-north-east of Loch nan Arm, a small, secluded loch surrounded by hills, some $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles north-north-east of Lochboisdale, is an earth-house in a good state of preservation.

On the south-western slope of the mound are three dilapidated, circular stone chambers, the domical roofs of which have been destroyed. They are placed triangular-wise, the east and west chambers lying about 7 feet distant from the one placed highest in the mound, and they measure about 8 feet in diameter. In the north-eastern arc of the wall of the central chamber, which still shows a height of about 3 feet 6 inches, is an entrance to an underground passage blocked with fallen stones for a distance of about 10 feet. From this point, where there is an opening in the roof owing to the removal of one or two lintels, the passage is continued in an S-shaped or double curve, first to the left and then to the right for a distance of 23 feet, where it enters a sub-oval beehive-shaped chamber 6 feet in length by 5 feet in breadth. From the floor to the highest point in the domical roof it measures 5 feet 8 inches. The entrance passage has a total length of about 33 feet and its general trend is in a north-north-easterly direction. Its walls are built of good drystone masonry, and the lintel stones are well placed, the general width being 2 feet 6 inches and height about 2 feet 4 inches. Some 5 feet from the inner chamber there is a distinct rise in the floor, a greater rise taking place in the lintelling of the roof. At 2 feet 5 inches from the chamber the passage increases to about 3 feet in height, and where it terminates it is 3 feet 5 inches high. The inward corbelling of the roof of the chamber is very irregular, and daylight is seen through several interstices between the stones. Situated among the talus at the foot of a craggy slope the earth-house is usually very wet.

South Uist lvi. 21 August 1914.

MISCELLANEOUS.

398. Stone Structure, Loch an Ietcher (Gauger), Carnan.—In a peat bog about 15 yards from the western shore of Loch an Ietcher, near its northern end, about 1 mile south of the post office at Carnan, a small barrel-shaped drystone structure, about 1 foot 6 inches in diameter, and the same in height, was discovered this summer by peat-cutting. The cover stone was about 9 inches under the surface, and the cavity was empty.

South Uist xlviii (unnoted). 30 June 1915.

399. Stone, Carragh-broin, Loch nan Arm.—Some 20 yards from the shore at the south-eastern corner of Loch nan Arm, a small loch about 2 miles north-north-east of Lochboisdale, is a small block of stone on the left bank of a rivulet running into the loch. It measures 2 feet in height, 2 feet 7 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 4 inches in thickness, and is named Carragh-broin ("stone of sorrow"), because after a combat at this place a wounded man staggered as far as the stone, when he collapsed, and falling on his knees before it leaned his body against it.

South Uist lvi 21 August 1914.

400. Short Stone Cist, Calvay Island.—Within 100 feet of the sea and slightly east of a large cleft in the rocks on the south side of the island are remains of a short stone cist lying east-south-east and west-north-west and measuring internally 4 feet in length by $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in breadth; one side is formed by a long thin slab laid on edge, head and foot are closed with single stones, while two other stones make up the other side.

South Uist lviii (unnoted). 4 August 1924.

401. Standing Stone, Pollachar.—On a grassy flat a few yards from the rocks on the shore at Pollachar, or Pollacharra as it is more often called, on the south-west of the island of South Uist, is a fine standing stone, which has been overthrown and re-erected. It stands about 70 yards west of Pollachar Inn, at a height of some 10 feet above high-water mark. It is an irregularly shaped prism, measuring 5 feet 8 inches in height and 5 feet 9 inches in girth at the foot.

South Uist lx. 17 June 1915.

402. Graves, Ceann a' Gharaidh, Pollachar.—Among the sands, just above high-water mark, on the south side of the small point Ceann a' Gharaidh, on the south-west shore of South Uist, stone-lined graves containing human skeletons placed in a crouching position have from time to time been exposed after heavy storms.

South Uist lvii (unnoted). 17 June 1915.

403. Mound, Sithean, Smerclett.—In the middle of a croft, in the township of Smerclett, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north-north-west of Pollachar Inn, and about 200 yards from the shore, is a small mound of sandy soil with a few stones intermixed, measuring 15 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height, which, though surrounded by arable land, has never been cultivated. It is known as Sithean, a fairy mound.

South Uist lvii (unnoted). 17 June 1915.

404. Sithean, South Boisdale.—On the machair about 300 yards south-south-east of the burying ground at South Boisdale, and about 200 yards from the shore, is a sandy mound of oval shape, measuring some 45 feet in length, 30 feet in breadth, and 2 feet 6 inches in height. Like the similar mound in the township of Smerclett, some $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles to the south-south-east, though surrounded by arable ground, it is never cultivated.

One man who ventured to cut turf from the surface of the mound was so terrified by the whistlings and shriekings that went on in his house the following night, that he replaced the turf next day.

South Uist lvii (unnoted). 17 June 1915.

405. Kitchen Middens, Daliburgh.—Among the sand-hills extending for about a mile along the coast to the west of the township of Daliburgh are a number of very fine kitchen middens, which have yielded a large number of relics, including hand-made pottery, bone pins, some bronzes, and large numbers of animal bones, as well as shells.

South Uist lv and lvii. 28 August 1914.

406. Standing Stone, Sligeanach, Kildonan.—On the machair about 1 mile south-west of Bornish and 400 yards west of the northern

end of Loch Kildonan, on the western edge of a line of sand dunes, is a broad monolith tapering slightly towards the top and facing the south-east. It measures 7 feet in height, 2 feet 11 inches in width across the base, and 12 inches in thickness.

About 100 yards to the north-north-west are two prostrate stones, the end of one lying across the end of the other; the former measures 6 feet 6 inches long, 2 feet 3 inches broad, and 1 foot 9 inches thick, while the latter, embedded in the sand, is 6 feet long and 3 feet 1 inch broad. Some 18 feet to the east-north-east is a third prostrate stone 7 feet 6 inches long and at least 3 feet 6 inches broad.

South Uist liii. 31 August 1914.

407. Standing Stone, An Carra, Beinn a' Charra.—On the western shoulder of Beinn a' Charra, commanding an extensive view of the flat machair land on the western part of South Uist, barely 500 yards east of the tenth milestone north of Lochboisdale, at an elevation of 200 feet above sea-level, is a fine monolith facing the north-west. It is of regular width for rather more than half its height, after which it tapers towards the top, the height being about 17 feet, the breadth 4 feet 9 inches, and the thickness 2 feet. It slants slightly towards the south-east.

South Uist liii. 24 August 1914.

408. Standing Stone, Crois Chnoca Breaca, Stoneybridge.—At Cnoca Breac, about 100 yards from the sea-shore to the west of the township of Stoneybridge, on the summit of a small mound about 6 feet high, is a standing stone facing the north-west with a considerable incline in that direction. It measures 6 feet 8 inches in height, 1 foot 4 inches in breadth at the base, and 9 inches in thickness. It is shaped like a cross with one arm broken off, hence the name Crois Chnoca Breaca, but it is quite a natural formation. (Fig. 121.)

South Uist liii. 25 August 1914.

409. Entrenchment, Abhuinn Roag, Snishival.—On gently falling moorland, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east of the road at Snishival, the burn Abhuinn Roag makes a very quick bend to the south, within which, on the right bank of the stream,

a raiding party of Macleods from Skye were encountered and defeated by the local Mac-Donalds. The latter are said to have entrenched themselves here while waiting the approach of the invaders, who had landed at Loch Skiptort. The position is defended on three sides by the link in the burn, and is open to the north-west. There is a circular excavation about 5 feet deep and 70 feet across, with a slight bank concentric with the outer rim of the hollow on the north and east, which gives this part the appearance of a trench some 18 feet wide. On the east it is some 35 feet from the bank of the burn, but towards the south-west the stream has cut into the edge of the hollow.

South Uist l. 29 June 1915.

410. Am Priosan ("Prison"), Strom Dearg.—Near the western extremity of Strom Dearg, one of the inner recesses of Lochboisdale, is a rock surmounted by the remains of a dry-stone building known as Am Priosan. The surrounding ground is now boggy, but before the modern dam was built across Strom Dearg the site was a tidal islet. The building is pear-shaped on plan, the pointed end being towards the east. It measures internally 23 feet along the major axis from east to west, and 16 feet in width at its widest part. The wall, which is built of large blocks of stone and in places attains a height of 3 feet, varies from 5 to 6 feet in thickness.

South Uist lvii. 1 September 1914.

SITES.

411. Chapel and Cladh Choinnich.—Shown on map as a site near the shore opposite to and north-east of Lochboisdale.

South Uist lvii.

412. Cille Donnain (disused) Burying Ground.—On a northerly projecting promontory on the west side of the northern half of Loch Kildonan is the site of Cille Donnain, but no trace of any building is now visible.

South Uist liii. 22 August 1914.

413. Cille-bhrìde.—In the old burying ground at Kilbride is the site of the ancient church of the same name, but all traces of it have been swept away.

South Uist lx. 17 June 1915.

414. Cladh Pheadair.—About $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of Loch a' Ghearraidh Dhuibh, south-west of Daliburgh on the summit of a sand-hill, is Cladh Pheadair. No trace of this burial ground is now visible.

South Uist lvii. 31 August 1914.

415. Burying Ground, Cladh, Ard an Dugain, Loch Greanabreck.—Ard an Dugain, a peninsula on the western side of Loch Greanabreck, is recorded as the site of an old burying ground. Across the neck of the peninsula are the remains of a massive stone wall with a number of ruined buildings built on its length. There are no traces of graves now visible.

South Uist lv. 22 August 1914.

416. Chapel (ruins of) and Dùn, Loch Cille Bhanain, West Geirnish.—On a small promontory on the northern shore of Loch Cille Bhanain, which lies to the south of the western extremity of the township of West Geirnish, is a ruined building marked "Chapel in ruins" on O.S. map. The name of the loch suggests that there had been a church near it in olden times, but judging from the orientation it is doubtful if this ruin was ever a church. It is oblong on plan, and is built almost due north and south. It measures some 54 feet in length, and 23 feet in breadth externally, the wall being about 3 feet 5 inches thick, and still standing to a height of about 6 feet above the interior. Though it has been pointed with lime in the interior, there is no trace of mortar within the wall, but possibly it has got washed out as in the case of the church at Balivanich in Benbecula. It is in danger of collapsing in different places, as the facing stones both inside and outside have become displaced, and the wall is gradually splitting. In the eastern wall, some 15 feet 6 inches from the north-east corner, is the southern jamb of the door, but the opposite side is quite destroyed. No windows can be detected in the building.

This structure has been built partly on the site of a dun, the remains of which can be seen outside the southern gable and south end of the west wall. The dun has apparently been circular with a diameter of some 47 feet externally from north-west to south-east. One or two courses containing large blocks of

stone, well built, remain in position on the outside of the south-western half of the circle.

South Uist xlvi. 26 June 1915

417. Dun, Loch an Daill, Carnan.—Towards the southern end of Loch an Daill ("blind man"), some 150 yards east of the main road about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile south of where it enters the South Ford, is an islet covered with a mound of stones about 4 feet in height, all that remains of a dun. No building can be detected from the shore, but there is a deeply submerged causeway connecting the dun with the eastern side of the loch, some 30 yards distant, the stones of which are clearly seen, covered with brown weed and making a considerable bend to the south in its course.

South Uist xlvi. (unnoted). 7 July 1915.

418. Dun (site of), Gro Ghot, Usinish.—On the hillside about 600 yards south-west of the summit of Beinn Ghot, on the Usinish peninsula, on the eastern shore of South Uist, at a place named Gro Ghot, at an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level, is an irregular mound of stones about 30 feet in diameter, with the ruins of an old house in the centre. This is marked as the site of a dun on the O.S. map, but no building can now be detected to indicate that it was originally a defensive structure.

South Uist li. 15 June 1915.

419. Dun, Loch an Eilein, Askernish.—About 700 yards east of Askernish House is a small loch, known as Loch an Eilein, in which are two small islands. On the most southerly of these, lying about 70 yards from the western shore, are the ruins of a dun occupying the south-western half of the islet. Viewed from the shore it appears as a tumbled mass of stone rising at most about 6 feet above the level of the loch, the summit crowned by a vigorous growth of vegetation. The landward end of a submerged causeway can be traced under water for some distance from a peninsula on the western shore of the loch lying to the north-west of the island. As this access to the dun does not connect with the nearest point of land, its position may have been determined by there being less depth by the slightly longer route. The course of the causeway is slightly

tortuous, apparently to utilise several rocks which appear above water near its landward end.

South Uist lv (unnoted). 21 June 1915.

420. Dun (site of), Loch an Duin, Smercleit.—A small promontory on the eastern shore of the shallow lochan, at the township of Smercleit, known as Loch an Duin, is the site of a dun which has been entirely cleared away.

South Uist lvii. 17 June 1915.

421. Dun, Eilean Chreamh, Loch Dunakillie.—In a small bay on the western shore of Loch Dunakillie, about 450 yards from its northern extremity, is an islet, Eilean Chreamh, once occupied by a dun. All that now remains is a mound of tumbled stones round the edge of the island which measures about 80 feet in diameter. It is connected with a narrow promontory on the western shore of the loch by a well preserved causeway, about 40 yards long and 9 feet broad, which makes a distinct curve to the south in its course.

South Uist lvii (unnoted). 28 August 1914.

422. Dun, Sgeir Ghlas, Loch nam Faoileann, Daliburgh.—Near the centre of Loch nam Faoileann, Daliburgh, a small sheet of water, is an islet Sgeir Ghlas, occupied entirely by the ruins of a dun. The building has collapsed, and the mound of stone rises about 4 feet above the surface of the water. A row of stones peeping above the water between the dun and the eastern shore seems to indicate the presence of a submerged causeway.

South Uist lvii. 22 June 1915.

423. Dun, Loch an Duin, Garryheillie.—Near the centre of Loch an Duin, a small loch on the low, flat ground at Garryheillie, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles west-north-west of Lochboisdale, is an islet occupied by the ruins of a dun. The most of the stones have been removed, but a conical mound truncated at the top, rising about 7 feet above the level of the loch, remains.

South Uist lv. 20 August 1914.

424. Dun Ruadh (site of), Loch Hallan.—Between the graveyard near Daliburgh and Loch Hallan is the site of Dun Ruadh. All traces have been removed, and the ground is under cultivation.

South Uist lv. 31 August 1914.

425. Dun, Loch Greanabreck (Loch a'Mhuilinn).—Some 50 yards from the north-west end of Loch Greanabreck, about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Lochboisdale, is an island dun connected with the western side of the loch by a causeway, 135 feet long and 6 feet broad, which makes a slight northern curve in the outer half of its course. The island is possibly for the greater part artificial, and now appears as an oval mound of fallen stones, measuring 65 feet from east-north-east to west-south-west, and 50 feet from north-north-west to south-south-east, rising to a height of 4 feet above the water. In no place is any building traceable, but the wall was built probably about 10 or 12 feet from the present water's edge.

South Uist lv (unnoted). 22 August 1914.

426. Dun nan Gallan (site of), Stoneybridge.—This dun, about 200 yards north of the northern end of Loch Ollay, in the township of Stoneybridge, has quite disappeared.

South Uist liii. 27 August 1914.

427. Dun Aligaray, Loch Aligaray, Grogarry.—On a flat machair, about 12 yards from the southern shore of Loch Aligaray, a small loch some 600 yards south-west of Grogarry House, are the fragmentary remains of Dun Aligaray. For a considerable part of the year the surrounding ground, which is barely 30 feet above sea-level, is marshy, but otherwise the site shows no natural strength. The stones of which the dun was built have been removed, leaving only a circular ring of large blocks embedded in soil. It measures about 54 feet in diameter externally. The wall seems to have been of considerable thickness, and judging from the dimensions and shape of the structure, the character of the few remaining stones, and its position, it is possible that it was a broch.

South Uist l. 26 June 1915.

428. Dun, Loch an Duin Mhoir, Liniquie.—Some 300 yards north of Liniquie, near the north-west corner of South Uist, on the northern side of Loch an Duin Mhoir, is the site of a dun, now occupied by the house and buildings of a croft.

In the north-west part of the loch is a luxuriant growth of reeds which are never cut, although they would be useful for various

purposes in a country where straw is never plentiful. The natives being Roman Catholics say that this was the kind of reed on which the sponge full of vinegar was handed to Christ on the Cross, and consequently it would be sacrilege to cut them.

South Uist xlvi. 1 July 1915.

429. Dun, Lochan nan Carranan, Buaile-dhubh.—On a small hillock in the southern end of Lochan nan Carranan, a small, reedy loch at Buaile-dhubh, is an oval heap of stones, hollow on the summit, measuring some 35 feet from east to west, 30 feet from north to south, and 3 feet in height, the remains of a dun. No structure can be detected.

South Uist xlvi. 6 July 1915.

430. Dun Buidhe, Loch Druidibeg, Stilligarry.—Near the northern end of Loch Druidibeg, about 400 yards east of the road opposite Stilligarry House, is an island occupied by the ruins of Dun Buidhe, and connected with the western shore of the loch by a causeway of considerable size, about 62 yards in length, and at least 9 feet in breadth, which for a considerable distance is submerged for the greater part of the year. The island, which is nearly circular, measures about 95 feet in diameter, and has been defended by a stone wall built round the margin. The wall has been quite destroyed, but its ruins cover a width of 12 feet to a depth of 1 to 2 feet, and only on the north-north-east, where a short section of the foundation of its outer face can be traced, is there any building in position. With the exception of a small part of its western side the island is covered with a mound of fallen stones, rising to a height of about 8 feet above the level of the water. This is surmounted by such a strong growth of brambles, ferns and other plants that no plan of the building is discernible.

South Uist l. 24 June 1915.

431. Dun an Duichal, Loch Dunanduichal, North Boisdale.—In the centre of Loch Dunanduichal, a small loch in the township of North Boisdale, separated by a narrow strip of ground from the western side of Loch Dunakillie, is an islet measuring about 75 feet in length. The ruins of the dun, which occupied the island, and gave the name to the loch, now appear as a mass

of tumbled stones, overgrown with grass, rising about 4 feet above the water.

Some people report a causeway between it and the west side of the loch, but others deny this. The water was high and too rough at the time of visit to distinguish anything of the kind.

South Uist lvii. 28 August 1914.

432. Chambered Cairn, Dun Trossary.—About 300 yards east-north-east of Garrynamonie School, on a slight hillock about 100 feet above sea-level, is a shapeless stony mound, with a sheep fank built on its northern side, marked "Dun (site of)" on O.S. map. It has probably been a chambered cairn and not a dun, as there are no indications of this kind of structure. Besides, a hollow on the south-western quadrant was occupied, within living memory, by a low, lintelled passage, running directly into the mound, which is suggestive of the entrance passage into a burial chamber. The most of the stones have been removed from the structure, but a large slab within the mound, half overthrown, measuring about 9 feet 9 inches in length and 4 feet 3 inches in breadth, is possibly one of the stones from the burial chamber.

South Uist lvii. 17 June 1915.

433. Dun or Cairn, Ardnamonie.—Some 150 yards west-south-west of Dun Buidhe (No. 369) is a rough mound of stones and earth, some 70 feet in diameter and 10 feet in height. It is marked "Dun" on O.S. map, but it has been so badly torn about, and its summit and sides are so encumbered by late ruins, that it is impossible to say without excavation whether it is a dun or a cairn.

South Uist xlviii. 5 July 1915.

434. Cairn (site of), Kilbride.—At the turn of the road from Kilbride to Lochboisdale, about 630 yards east of Pollachar Inn, was a cairn of stones, which was entirely removed many years ago.

South Uist lx (unnoted). 17 June 1915.

435. Causeway, Orosay.—About $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west of the township of South Boisdale is the island of Orosay, lying about 350 yards from the shore, a smaller tidal islet intervening. This islet,

about 50 yards in length and 20 yards in breadth at its widest part, seems to have been surrounded by a slight wall built round its margin. A massive causeway, 120 yards long and from 9 to 12 feet in breadth, formed of large blocks of stone, connects it with the mainland.

South Uist lvii (unnoted). 1 September 1914.
(On *Earth-house at Daliburgh* see p. xlii.)

BARRA.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

436. Cille - bharra, Church and Chapels.—Under the eastern shoulder of Ben Eoligaray Mor, at the north end of the island, are the remains of a church and two detached chapels, grouped with the church to the west and the chapels lying eastward and to either side. Each building is oblong and is built of rubble, pinned up with shells and built in lime mortar. The church, which was dedicated to St Barr, measures 38 feet by 13 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet within walls averaging 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. The gables are reduced almost to ground level, but the side walls stand

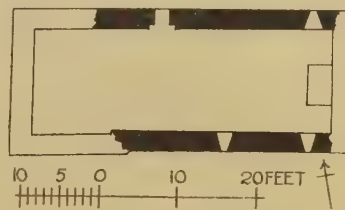


FIG. 172.—Church, Cille-bharra (No. 436).

to a height of 7 or 8 feet; the western part of the south wall seems to have been rebuilt.

The entrance (Fig. 178) lies to the north, and is built with slightly tapering jambs, being 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ feet wide at the bottom and 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ feet at the head, which is a false arch formed by two inclined lintels within a relieving arch; internally the jambs are in two orders beneath a second arch. The door appears to have been only 2 feet 11 inches in height from ground level to the springing of the false arch, and may be compared with the entrance of the southern chapel at Howmore, which is 3 feet 2 inches in height. Three windows remain, one to the north (Fig. 179), two to the south, the most easterly being to light the altar. These windows are 11 inches wide and have rounded heads externally, while internally the head is a false arch; the breasts are stepped. The seating for the altar, about 5 feet long and 3 feet broad, remains against

the east gable. Within the ruin and beside the entrance lies a stone 14 by 8 inches, having a circular basin 7 inches deep and 10 inches in diameter hewn in it.

The northern chapel, which is now subdivided for burials by a partition, measures 26 by $9\frac{3}{4}$ feet within walls 1 foot 10 inches thick. The gables, which are tabled, are entire; the side walls stand $4\frac{3}{4}$ feet above the present ground level. The entrance, 2 feet 8 inches wide, faces west. There are three windows in each side wall and one centred in the east gable, all $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide. This appears to be the latest building of the group.

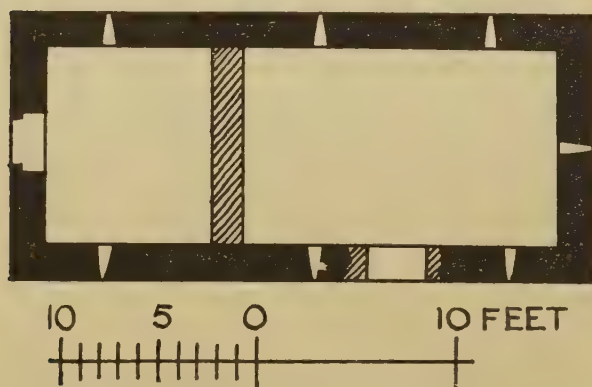


Fig. 173.—Northern Chapel, Cille-bharra (No. 436).

The third chapel, the most southerly structure, measures $14\frac{1}{2}$ by $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet within walls $1\frac{3}{4}$ feet thick, the west gable alone being 2 feet 1 inch thick; the latter wall remains for a height of $7\frac{1}{4}$ feet, the other walls are, generally, reduced to a height of less than 2 feet above the present ground level, and the only feature left is a small window to the north with splayed jambs and arched head, lintelled internally; farther west in the same wall are traces of another.

GRAVE SLABS.—(a) In St Mary's Church is a finely cut, well preserved grave slab measuring 6 feet 5 inches in length along the dexter side, 6 feet $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches on the opposite side, $18\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth at the top and $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches at the bottom. Round the edge is a double bead moulding, and in the panel so formed is a claymore with slightly curved quillons and a round pommel spiked on the top, surrounded by an interlaced foliaceous design based on the three-lobed leaf. At the top is a complicated piece of knot-work developed out of the stalks of the foliage. (Fig. 146.)

(b) A slab of slate in a good state of preservation lies in the eastern half of St Barr's Church. It is 6 feet $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, 21 inches broad at the top, tapering to 18 inches some 6 inches from the bottom, where the corners are cut off, making the stone 14 inches in width at the foot. There is a flat moulding with a bead inside round the edge. The ornamentation consists of a blunt pointed claymore with depressed quillons terminating in lozenges and a round pommel with a blunt spike on the top. On either side of and below the sword is an interlaced foliaceous design. The upper part of the slab bears a panel filled in with an interlaced foliaceous cross of eight rays springing from an interlaced centre. (Fig. 147.)

If this slab is not attended to shortly the ornamentation will scale off, as the roots of weeds are working their way into the stone.

(c) A third slab on a grave in the churchyard measures 6 feet 1 inch in length, $18\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide at the top and 17 inches at the foot. Part of the ornamentation has weathered off. This consists of an interlaced foliaceous design with a lymphad or galley near the top and a deer with a smaller animal behind it at the foot. (Fig. 148.)

(d) There is another slab, but as it is of sandstone it is badly weathered and is fast deteriorating further. Round the edge is an inscription in Latin letters. The base of a stepped cross and part of the shaft can be distinguished in the centre, with a rude skull carved on either side of the cross near the top. On the sinister side of the shaft is a row of rosettes, and the handle of a sword is clearly seen between these and the inscription.

Between 1915 and 1924 the slabs Nos. 2 and 4 have disappeared from view, whether removed or entirely overgrown. There are local tales of stones having been taken away from here without any authority.

RUNIC STONE.—The only rune-inscribed stone known in the Hebrides was found in the churchyard at Kilbar (Figs. 174, 177), but is now in the National Museum of Antiquities. It measures about $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height by 12 to 16 inches broad, and ten inches thick, and bears on one face a cross of Celtic type, circled at the intersection of the arms and filled with a simple plait work, while the lower limb is flanked by a pair of double scrolls and fretwork. On the other side is the inscription in runes. This is obscure, and no satisfactory interpretation has been made.

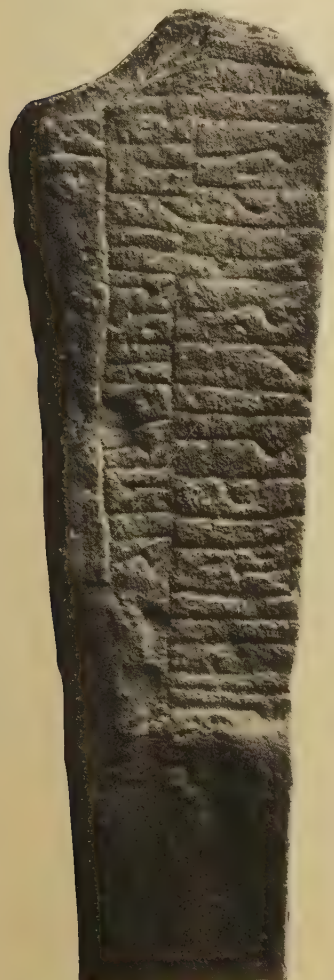


FIG. 174—Runic Stone from Cille-bharra (No. 436) : obverse.



FIG. 175—Cross Slab, Pabbay (No. 438).



FIG. 176—Cross Slab, Berneray (No. 467).



FIG. 177—Runic Stone from Cille-bharra (No. 436) : reverse.



FIG. 178—Inner side of Entrance, Cille-bharra (No. 436).



FIG. 179—Inner side of North Window, Cille-bharra (No. 436).

The runic letters which are clear seem to read :

UR THUR KIRTHU STI[N-]R
RISKURS S[] RISTR
[]

The broken end has meant the loss of some letters, particularly in the second and third lines. For a more definite reading see *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, XV., pp. 33-6. This reading depends upon the acceptance of certain letters as being on the stone, which a close inspection fails to justify.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—Dean Monro specifies “ane paroche kirke, namit Killbare.” Martin mentions the church and a chapel beside it. His account runs thus: “The church in this island is called Kilbarr, *i.e.* St Barr’s Church. There is a little chapel by it, in which Macneil and those descended of his family are usually interred. The natives have St Barr’s wooden image standing on the altar, covered with linen in form of a shirt; all their greatest asseverations are by this saint. I came very early in the morning with an intention to see this image, but was disappointed; for the natives prevented me by carrying it away, lest I might take occasion to ridicule their superstition, as some Protestants had done formerly; and when I was gone it was again exposed on the altar. They have several traditions concerning this great saint. There is a chapel (about half a mile on the south side of the hill near St Barr’s Church) where I had occasion to get an account of a tradition concerning this saint, which was thus: ‘The inhabitants having begun to build the church, which they dedicated to him, they laid this wooden image within it, but it was invisibly transported (as they say) to the place where the church now stands, and found there every morning.’ This miraculous conveyance is the reason they give for desisting to work where they first began. . . . All the inhabitants observe the anniversary of St Barr, being the 27th of September; it is performed riding on horseback, and the solemnity is concluded by three turns round St Barr’s Church. This brings into my mind a story which was told me concerning a foreign priest and the entertainment he met with after his arrival there some years ago, as follows:—This priest happened to land here upon the very day, and at the particular hour of this solemnity, which was the

more acceptable to the inhabitants, who then desired him to preach a commemoration sermon to the honour of their patron St Barr, according to the ancient custom of the place. At this the priest was surprised, he never having heard of St Barr before that day; and therefore knowing nothing of his virtues, could say nothing concerning him; but told them that if a sermon to the honour of St Paul or St Peter could please them, they might have it instantly. This answer of his was so disagreeable to them that they plainly told him he could be no true priest, if he had not heard of St Barr, for the Pope himself had heard of him; but this would not persuade the priest, so that they parted much dissatisfied with one another. They have likewise a general cavalcade on St Michael’s Day, in Kilbar village, and do then also take a turn round their church. Every family, as soon as the solemnity is ended, is accustomed to bake St Michael’s cake, as above described; and all strangers, together with those of the family, must eat the bread that night.”¹ The *Statistical Account* (1794) says: “In Kilbar are two churches, built by the monks, belonging to Icolmkill; another at Borge, dedicated to St Michael.”²

¹ *A Description of the Western Islands of Scotland*, by Martin, pp. 92 and 99; ² vol. xiii., p. 335.

Barra lxiii. 8 August 1924.

437. Church, St Brendan’s Chapel, Borge Point.—In a burying ground on the south side of the low-lying peninsula terminating in Borge Point, just above the sea-shore, is a fragment of an old church, St Brendan’s Chapel, built of stone and lime. Only a small portion of a gable remains, standing about 3 feet in height, with part of the northern jamb of a door in position. The door seems to have been 3 feet 3 inches wide, and the church has been orientated slightly north of east and south of west.

A wall of loose stones has been piled up on the site of the church, and among them is a block of gneiss 20 inches long, 14 inches broad, and 6 inches thick, with a hollow or cup 3½ inches in diameter at the lip, and 2¾ inches deep, cut not quite in the centre of its flat top. This cup, according to local tradition, is never dry, but always contains some water. At the time of the visit it was half full of water, though covered by a round, flat pebble. Possibly the

stone being of porous nature absorbs enough moisture to account for the continual supply of water in the dry spells, which seldom occur in these islands.

Barra lxiv. 5 June 1915.

438. Chapel and Sculptured Stones, Bagh Ban, Pabbay.—On what is now a mound some 10 feet high, on the south-western border of the sandy slope running up from Bagh Ban on the eastern shore of Pabbay, about 150 yards from the high-water mark, are the indistinct foundations of an oblong church of stone and lime measuring about 31 feet in length and 14 feet in breadth externally, and orientated slightly north of west and south of east. Great quantities of human bones are reported to have been found here from time to time as the sand drifted away.

SYMBOL STONE.—The symbol stone described in *Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, p. III, and *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. XXXI., p. 300, lies on the side of the mound. It is a much weathered rough slab 4 feet long and 1 foot 3 inches broad. At the top is a cross, side arms potent, resting on a crescent with divergent floriated rods symbol, and the lily symbol underneath the latter.



FIG. 180.—Symbol Stone, Bagh Ban, Pabbay (No. 438).

CROSS SLABS.—There are also three slabs of gneiss, each bearing an incised cross, on the mound. The largest is a prism roughly square in section, and measures 4 feet 4 inches in height and about 1 foot square. On one face is a cross potent within a larger cross, the top arm of which is potent. The outer cross measures 11 inches in length and 8 inches

in breadth, while the inner cross is $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches long and 6 inches broad. (Fig. 175)

The other two cross stones are of very small dimensions. Both are regular, natural prisms of rectangular section. One measures 14 inches in height above ground, 5 inches broad, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. The small Latin cross incised at the top of one face measures 4 inches long and $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches broad. The other stone, which was lying on the surface of the ground, is $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, 4 inches broad, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. The cross faintly cut at the top of one face is $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches broad.

Barra lxix. 11 June 1915.

CASTLES.

439. Kiessimul Castle, Castlebay.—On a low rock rising but a few feet above high-water mark 200 yards from the shore of Castle Bay stands Kiessimul Castle, the largest and most imposing secular building in the Outer Hebrides. The nucleus of this castle is a 15th-century tower set at the south-east angle of the site; from the tower run curtains to form an irregularly shaped enclosure, measuring internally 100 feet from north-east to south-west by 68 feet from north-west to south-east. At two places, the north and north-eastern angles of the enclosure, the curtains rise above the general level to form vantage points 33 feet above the rock. Against the curtains are subsidiary structures, one within the northern angle being original and the remainder considerably later, *i.e.* 17th-18th century. The original entrance to the enclosure, which is now built up, adjoins the north-east angle of the tower; its is covered by a machicolation. In front of the entrance is a harbour protected by an outwork built on a spur of rock. (Figs. 1, 183.)

Throughout the castle the masonry is rubble built of local stone in shell lime mortar; in places slabs are bedded on edge, a peculiarity noticed also at Calvay Castle (No. 369). The voids are mainly confined to the upper walls.

The tower, oblong on plan and measuring 33 feet from north to south by $28\frac{3}{4}$ feet from east to west over walls 6 feet in average thickness, is 49 feet high, and rises sheer from a steeply battered basecourse of $1\frac{1}{4}$ feet projection to the parapet, which like that of the curtain

has no overhang, being a continuation of the wall below. The parapets of tower and curtains are crenellated, and beneath the crenellations are a series of openings like windows, while at the level of the parapet walks are "weep holes" for drainage. (Fig. 185.)

The tower walls are practically complete, but the lower part of the structure is filled with soil, and there may be another storey beneath

space between the roof-rest and the parapet is utilised as a parapet walk, and, since the parapet rose 9 feet above the walk, its lower part was provided with "windows," while the crenellations above were apparently reached from a narrow scarcement on two walls, steps on the west wall leading up to the higher level.

The room immediately beneath the roof, like the other chambers, has no fireplace.

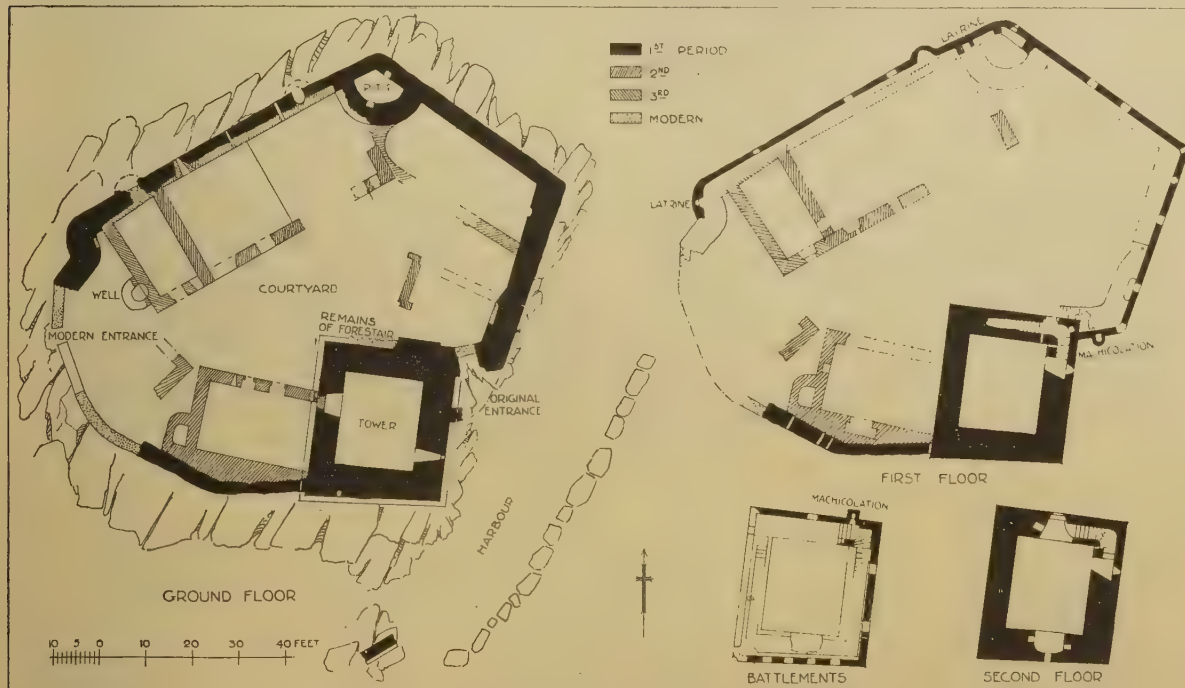


FIG. 181.—Kiessimul Castle, Castlebay (No. 439).

the three now visible below the parapet; each storey contains a single chamber. The tower has been entered from a forestair rising along the north wall to the curtain parapet; from that level another stair or possibly a movable ramp or ladder rose to the entrance, above which is a machicolation (Fig. 184). The entrance, 18 feet from the ground, is $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide; it opens on a lobby within the thickness of the wall from which a narrow stair descends to the basement, while another ascends to the chamber beneath the walk; from this room a stair, entered from the embrasure of the north window, ascends to the parapet walk. The floors have been of timber. As in most of the houses in the islands, the roof rested on the inner face of the walls, but in this building the

There are windows furnished with aumbries in the ingoings, to north and south; another window to the east, from which the stair leads down to the entrance, has a small opening, possibly a shot hole, in the breast. The room below this has no openings and must have been entered from a hatch; while the lower chamber has a window on the east now built up, and what seems to have been a door to the west. Externally on the south wall of the tower two flues or chutes appear, which cannot be traced inside; these may be latrine flues, but a similar opening is found in the little outwork at the harbour.

The small tower at the northern angle of the courtyard is not unlike one at Calvay. The lower part, which measures $10\frac{1}{2}$ by $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet internally,

is called the "dungeon," and is quite likely to have been a "pit," for it is unlighted and was entered from a ceiling trap; it contains two aumbries. Above this was a chamber of the same size entered from the curtain wall and containing a latrine.

Against the north-west curtain there has apparently been a building older than the present structure, for there seems to have been a side gate at the base of the turret projecting near the pit; at the other end of the curtain there are traces of a second turret, which rose only one storey and had a domical roof; this may have been a latrine. The



FIG. 182.—The Tower, Kiessimul Castle (No. 439).

present building is a two-storeyed house, and was probably divided by a transverse partition; the masonry is rubble and the gables are tabled. The curtain has been thickened, and the wall heads and the roof-rest are curiously corbelled out with slabs on edge. Against the southern gable has been placed an addition with a crow-stepped gable, and recessed into this new outer gable is the well, which has had a domical top.

Against the west wall of the tower are the remains of a two-storeyed building, and between this and the well is a fragment of another. Against the north and north-eastern curtains there have been two one-storeyed buildings almost entirely demolished.

The castle buildings were repaired within

recent years, and the present condition of the buildings is satisfactory.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—The erection of the castle in its oldest form is probably to be dated after 1427, when the island became the chief patrimony and home of the MacNeills.¹ If existing in the second half it could scarcely have escaped notice in Fordun's list of castles in the islands: it is not mentioned even by Fordun's continuator just before the middle of the fifteenth century: yet both have "Benwevil" (cf. *Introd.*, p. xxiv) in Uist. In the *Description* (1577-1595) it is said of "McNeill Barra" that "His principal dwelling-place there is callit Keissadull, quhilk is ane excellent strenth."² In Dean Monro's work (1599) the name is "Kiselnin." Martin's account (c. 1695) is as follows: "The little island Kismul lies about a quarter of a mile from the south of this isle. It is the seat of Macneil of Barray; there is a stone wall round it two stories high, reaching the sea, and within the wall there is an old tower and a hall, with other houses about it. There is a little magazine in the tower, to which no stranger has access. I saw the officer called the Cockman, and an old cock he is; when I bid him ferry me over the water to the island, he told me that he was but an inferior officer, his business being to attend in the tower; but if (says he) the constable, who then stood on the wall, will give you access I'll ferry you over. I desired him to procure me the constable's permission, and I would reward him; but having waited some hours for the constable's answer, and not receiving any, I was obliged to return without seeing this famous fort. Macneil and his lady being absent was the cause of this difficulty, and of my not seeing the place. I was told some weeks after that the constable was very apprehensive of some design I might have in viewing the fort, and thereby to expose it to the conquest of a foreign power, of which I supposed there was no great cause of fear."³ The writer in the *Statistical Account* (1794)⁴ observes, "It has always been the residence of the Lairds of Barry, till the beginning of the present century."

¹ *Introd.*, p. xx. ² Skene, vol. iii., p. 430.

³ *Description of the Western Islands*, by Martin Martin, p. 91.

⁴ Vol. xiii., p. 335.

Barra lxiv. 6 August 1924.



FIG. 183—Original Entrance.



FIG. 184—Entrance to Tower.



FIG. 185—Curtain Wall and Later Building.

KIESSIMUL CASTLE, CASTLEBAY (No. 439).

To face p. 128.

440. Castle Sinclair (O.S. Dun Mhic Leoid).—Built on an islet at the upper end of Loch Tangusdale, otherwise Loch St Clair, which lies beneath Ben Tangaval, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Castlebay, the ruin of a small square tower, Dun Mhic

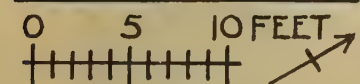


FIG. 186.—Castle Sinclair (No. 440).

Leoid, occupies the south-west corner of the site and touches the water on two sides. The tower, originally of three storeys, stands only to a height of 15 feet. It measures $18\frac{1}{2}$ by 18 feet over walls $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. The walls are built of polygonal rubble in lime mortar, and the lower 4 feet of the walling has been pointed. The

floors have been of wood, and there are no fire-places and no stair. The entrance, which faces north, is at first floor level, and opens on a chamber $9\frac{1}{2}$ by $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet with a three-inch light to the south and the remains of larger windows set within wide embrasures to east and west. The upper floor is demolished; the basement has only a four-inch window at the south-east corner.

The structure is in bad repair.

Barra lxiv. 9 August 1924.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(BROCHS.)

441. Dun Cuier, Allasdale.—On the summit of a rocky hill rising about 150 feet above sea-level, about 300 yards south-east of the road between Allasdale and Cuier, and some 750 yards west of the parish church of Barra at Cuier, is Dun Cuier, apparently a broch. It commands a fine view of the Atlantic to the west, and northwards the hills of South Uist appear, while through a narrow gap in the hills to the east a glimpse of the Sea of the Hebrides is obtained. It is in a very ruinous condition, and appears as a stony mound from 5 to 12

feet in height, according to the unevenness of its rocky foundation, with a deep hollow on the summit. The outer face of the wall has been removed, leaving little more than the foundation course, which can be traced for the greater part of the circumference. The inner face of the wall can just be detected for a short distance on the northern arc, but excavation might possibly reveal about 5 feet of building. It is circular on plan, measuring about 30 feet in diameter internally, and the wall which is measurable on the north is some 14 feet thick. The inner wall of a gallery within the thickness of the wall, measuring from 4 feet 6 inches to 5 feet in width, can be distinguished on the south-western curve of the building. The entrance has been destroyed, but a gap on the south-east probably indicates its position

Barra lxii. 7 June 1915.

442. Dun a' Chaolais, Vatersay.—To the west of Ben Orosay, on the north of Vatersay, some 400 yards south of the Sound of Vatersay, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, is a broch, Dun a' Chaolais, built on a rocky knoll rising sharply about 20 feet above its surroundings, except towards the south-east where it falls away gradually in a series of rocky steps. The broch is in a ruinous condition, the interior being full of fallen stones. While the outer face is almost entirely broken down, its best preserved part, on the south-west, still maintains a height of 3 feet; on the inside, owing to the protection afforded by the dislodged stones, it is in better condition, and on the north-west a height of probably about 10 feet remains. The broch is circular, measuring about 29 feet 6 inches in diameter internally, and the wall varies from 10 feet 3 inches to nearly 12 feet in thickness. Part of a scarcement 8 inches wide is seen on the inside of the south-western arc of the wall, but its height is not determinable. The entrance has probably been slightly to the south of east. Within the thickness of the wall to the north of the supposed entrance there is a small circular cell 4 feet in diameter above the debris which it contains, and to the south of the entrance the inner curve of an oval cell, 7 feet in length, is traceable. Portions of a gallery on the ground level within the wall are seen round the greater part of the western half of the building, many lintel

stones remaining in position. The gallery is about 3 feet wide, and the inner wall varies from 3 feet 3 inches to 4 feet 2 inches in thickness, and the outer wall from 3 feet to 4 feet 6 inches. This chamber is full of debris. The inner face of the inner wall of an upper gallery, standing 2 feet in height above the lintels of the lower gallery, survives at several places on the west.

To the west of the broch there has been an outer courtyard enclosed by a stone wall, its outer face built at a distance of 30 feet 10 inches from the main building. This wall, which shows a height of 3 feet in one place, is built on the edge of the rock, and curves round to meet the wall of the broch on the north.

There are numerous stone foundations outside the dun, several of them evidently of late date.

Barra lxiv. 12 June 1915.

(PROBABLE BROCHS.)

443. Dunan Ruadh, Fuday.—On a small promontory at the southern end of Traigh na Reill, the large sandy bay on the west side of the island of Fuday, are the very scanty remains of Dunan Ruadh. This dun seems to have been a circular building, but the most of the stones have been removed, and what remains is almost covered with drifted sand. The only part of the building visible is the outer foundation stones for a length of about 15 feet on the southern arc, with two courses superimposed for a short distance, and these are built on the summit of a rock rising about 12 feet above high-water mark. This small piece of structure looks very like building seen in brochs.

Near the middle of the bay to the north, in the sands above the sea-shore, a number of stone-lined graves containing human skeletons placed in a crouching position have been exposed from time to time after severe gales.

Barra lxiii. 15 June 1915.

444. Dun, Sandray.—Running up from the head of a bay on the south side of the island of Sandray, across the south-western slope of Cairn Galtar, the highest of the two hills in the island, is a narrow gully, on the southern or lower side of which is a rough, steep, rocky ridge. Near the highest part of this ridge, on a rocky knob rising about 30 feet above the gully,

at an elevation of about 400 feet above sea-level, are situated the remains of a dun. From the south-east it stands out prominently against the skyline, but viewed from the south-west it is barely distinguishable as its stones blend with the stony face of the hill. The dun is very much dilapidated, owing to the collapse of the greater part of the wall, some of it falling into the interior, and the most of it sliding down the steep sides of the rock on which it is built. Towards

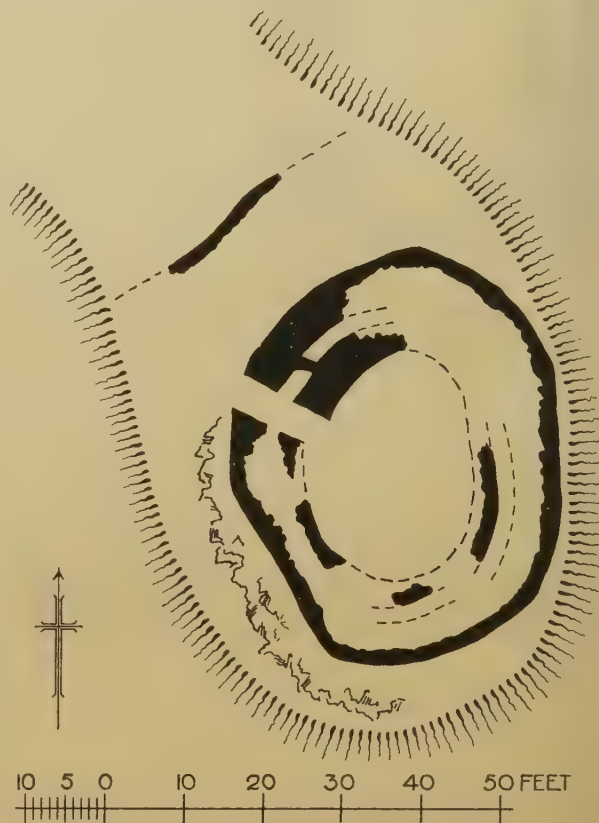


FIG. 187.—Dun, Sandray (No. 444).

the north-west where the ridge is almost level, and on the south-west, the fall has not been so complete, and the wall for a considerable distance maintains a height of about 5 feet 6 inches on its outer face. On the north and east it is possible to trace the outline, and on the south two courses are left. The best preserved parts show that the wall has been built with a distinct inward batter. The building, owing to its peculiar position, is oval on plan on the exterior, but possibly excavation might prove it to be circular in the interior. It measures externally



FIG. 188—Dun, Sandray (No. 444).



FIG. 189—Dun, Loch an Duin (No. 445).



FIG. 190—Dun, Barra Head Lighthouse: Entrance, from Interior (No. 450).

To face p. 130.

about 51 feet across from north to south and about 42 feet from east to west. The wall varies in thickness from 7 feet 6 inches on the south to 11 feet 6 inches on the west; at the entrance, which is broken down on the south side, it is 10 feet 9 inches thick and 12 feet on the north side. On the north side of the entrance passage, which faces west-north-west, some 4 feet from the outside, is a doorway 2 feet 3 inches wide leading into a small oval cell within the thickness of the wall through a short passage, showing its three lintel stones in position. The cell, which measured some 4 feet 6 inches in length, and 4 feet in breadth above the stones which half fill it, gives access to a gallery continued within the wall. This gallery is about 2 feet wide and three of its lintels, covering a space 3 feet 6 inches in length, remain *in situ*. There is also evidence of a gallery in the south-western curve of the wall.

The scanty remains of an outer defence are seen in traces of the outer face of a stone wall built across the ridge to the north-west, some 16 feet 6 inches from the entrance to the main building. (Fig. 188.)

This building, notwithstanding the attenuation of the wall on the edges of the ridge, is probably a broch, as the galleries seem to have been carried round the narrowest part of the wall. This is plainly indicated on the southern half of the building, where traces of the gallery can be distinguished at a part where the wall is only 7 feet 6 inches thick.

Barra lxvi. 11 June 1915.

445. Dun, Loch an Duin.—About $1\frac{1}{8}$ miles east of Cuier, on the south side of the road crossing the island towards Northbay, is the small Loch an Duin, with an islet near its eastern shore. This islet is the site of a dun, from which most of the stones have been carried away to build a dam to increase the area of the loch. On the eastern side all the blocks have been removed, leaving only a mound of small stones, but on the western side there is a mass of tumbled blocks, about 6 feet in height, in which the outer face of the wall of the western half of a circular building is traceable. Over a length of about 30 feet on the north-western curve three or four courses, about 3 to 4 feet in height, remain in position. There are suggestions of a

gallery, with an outer wall about 3 feet 6 inches thick, within the thickness of the wall at this part. The external diameter of the building has been about 49 feet. The slight indications of a gallery within the wall, and the dimensions and character of the building, point to the possibility of this dun having been a broch. It is connected with a small promontory on the east side of the loch by a causeway running north-west from the shore. This is 55 feet long, 7 feet broad, and rises a few inches above the surface of the water. (Fig. 189.)

Barra lxii. 7 June 1915.

446. Dun Ban.—The ruins of Dun Ban occupy a small rocky promontory jutting out into the Atlantic, on the western side of the island of Barra, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile west of Halaman Bay, near Tangusdale. The coast here is rocky and rugged and the site is one of the wildest and most desolate in the island. The rock rises about 40 feet above the water; on either side is a rocky gully, while it is cut off from the bare hillside behind, to the south, by a hollow walled by a rocky bluff, about 12 feet high, on the side next the dun. The fort consists of a circular building erected on the highest point of the peninsula, with an outer wall erected on the top of the bluff on the landward side, some 66 feet distant. So much of the main building has been removed, and so badly disturbed are the remaining portions, that it is impossible to state definitely what was its character. On the southern side it has been cleared away, and on the remaining portions nothing remains but dislodged stones, 4 to 5 feet deep, covering a space 12 feet wide in places. The outer foundation course can be detected in parts, and the external diameter from north to south is some 60 feet. It is not improbable that the building was a broch.

The outer wall is also in a very ruinous condition, and behind it is a great mass of tumbled blocks of stone. No trace of the entrance in either the main building or outer defence can be seen.

Barra lxiv. 8 June 1915.

447. Broch or Galleried Dun, Dunan Ruadh, Pabbay.—On the eastern shore of Pabbay, on the north side of the isthmus connecting the peninsula of Rosinish with the island, is a rocky peninsula rising from 10 to 15 feet above high-

water mark, on which are situated the fragments of a fort, Dunan Ruadh. On the edge of the rocky bluff facing the land are the ruins of a curved wall, in the heart of which there has been a narrow gallery. Only a small portion of the south-western arc of the building remains, the other parts having been completely removed. The wall has been about 13 feet 6 inches thick, and while one or two courses remain in position on the outer face, the mound of stone stands about 7 feet in height. A small part of the inner wall of a gallery is traceable for a short distance.

Barra lxix. 11 June 1915.

448. Dun Chlif, Cliad.—On the western shore of Barra, about 1 mile east-north-east of Cliad, are the scanty remains of what probably was a broch, noted on the O.S. map as Dun Chlif; it is locally known as Dunan Ruadh na Chlif, but one old man called it Sorn Coir Fhinn ("the fire-place of the kettle of Finn"). It is built on the highest and landward end of a mass of very rugged rocks, which are surrounded by water during high tides. As it stands no more than about 12 feet above high-water mark on one of the wildest shores in Scotland, it must often be shrouded in spray from the Atlantic (Fig. 192). The mound of stones remaining stands only about 3 feet above its rocky site. The northern side had been founded on the sloping side of the rock, with the result that the greater part of it has slipped into the sea, and the same has occurred on the south, but to a less extent. Among the stones which cumber the interior about two-thirds of the inner face of the wall can be detected, and the outer face is traceable on the east and west. The internal courtyard seems to have been circular with a diameter of about 26 feet, and the wall measures 12 feet in thickness on the west or seaward side, and 15 feet on the east. At the latter place the entrance, 2 feet 10 inches wide, is clearly defined, three courses of building remaining in position on the outside of its southern side. To the south of the entrance, within the wall, is an oval cell too dilapidated for measurement, and on the southern curve there are indications of a gallery, its inner wall measuring about 3 feet thick.

Barra lxii. 14 June 1915.

(GALLERIED DUNS.)

449. Dun Scurrival, Eoligarry.—Dun Scurrival occupies the summit of a small hill on the west coast of Barra near its most northerly point, about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile west-north-west of Eoligarry House. The hill rises to a height of 100 feet above sea-level in a sharp rocky ascent from the shore on the west, while on the east the slope though more gradual is still steep. The dun, like the other fortified buildings in Barra, is greatly dilapidated. Pear-shaped on plan, with apex to the west, it measures internally some 52 feet from east to west, and some 39 feet from north to south. The outer part of the wall has been torn down, leaving only an occasional foundation-stone in position, and on the inside it rises at most some 3 feet above the debris. The entrance is indistinguishable, but seems to have been in the east end. Small portions of the inner face of the inner wall of a gallery within the body of the wall survive on the west-south-west and north-east. At the latter place the wall is 14 feet 6 inches thick, the inner wall of the gallery being 4 feet thick. The entrance to this gallery can be traced, varying in width from 2 feet to 2 feet 4 inches towards the interior of the wall. At the western end of the dun there seems to be a scarcement 6 inches wide on the inner face of the wall. But the condition of the structure makes all statements as to detail doubtful.

Barra lxii. 9 June 1915.

450. Dun, Barra Head Lighthouse, Berneray.—Barra Head Lighthouse is built on the highest point in the island of Berneray, not on Barra Head proper, which is the most southerly point in the Outer Hebrides, but near the end of a small promontory, Sron an Duin, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to the north-west and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of Skate Point, the most westerly point in the island. This promontory within the grounds of the lighthouse is the site of a very interesting fort, which occupies one of the wildest and grandest positions in Scotland, the cliffs by which it is bounded on two sides rising over 600 feet from the Atlantic. A massive dry-stone wall, curved slightly in the centre towards the land, is built across the promontory and encloses a narrow triangular space about

45 yards long, and about 14 yards across at the centre. The interior has been hollowed out, at what period is not known, leaving a ragged parapet of rock from 6 to 10 feet high all round. On the exterior for the greater part of its length the wall stands 9 feet high, many of the blocks of which it is built being of great size, the largest measuring 7 feet long by 2 feet 9 inches high. Some 12 feet from its western end is the entrance passage which still retains its lintelled roof (Fig. 190). The entrance

and 3 feet deep, 8 inches behind the check on this side. There is a cavity opposite it on the other side of the passage, but it is not carefully built. The two outer lintels of the passage cover a length of 3 feet 7 inches, and the inner lintel is placed 1 foot higher than the other two. The thickness of the main wall is not ascertainable, as the inner side is broken down and covered with debris, but it has contained two galleries, one superimposed on the other. A number of the lintels of the lower

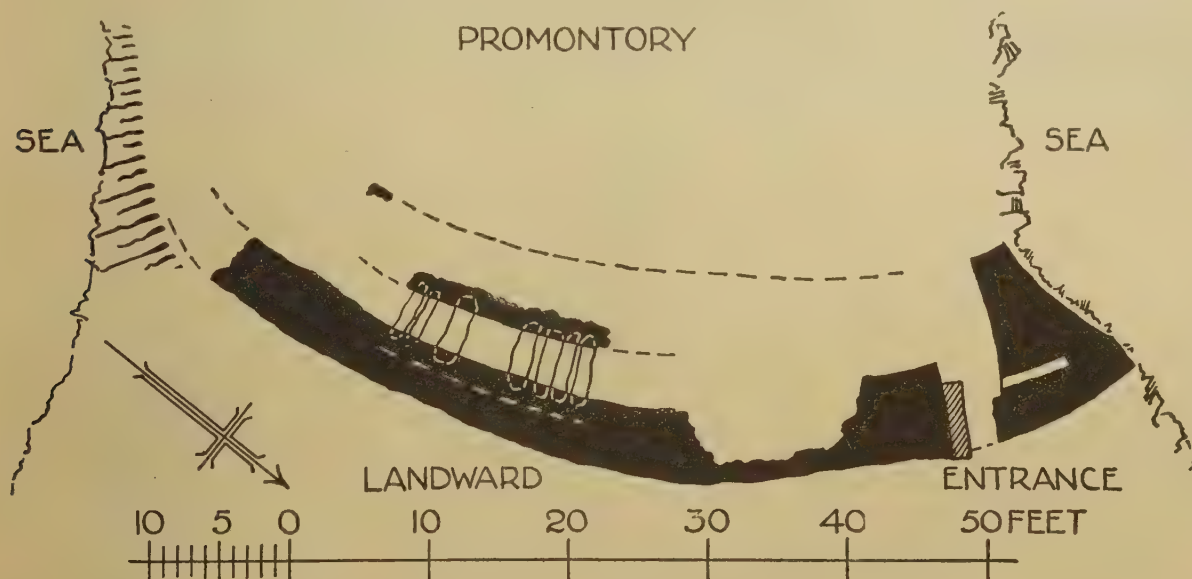


FIG. 191.—Dun, Barra Head Lighthouse, Berneray (No. 450).

is 5 feet 3 inches in height and 2 feet 2 inches in breadth and the passage is paved. On the east side of the passage a facing of later construction narrows the entrance for some $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the outside, when there is a return, 1 foot 10 inches deep, beyond which the original wall is continued inwards for 1 foot 3 inches. On the west side the wall of the passage runs in for 3 feet 6 inches, where there is a check of about 6 inches in depth, after which it is carried inwards for 10 feet with a slight curve towards the east. The outer part of this wall on the west of the passage is also curved concavely, so that while it is about 12 feet thick between the passage and the edge of the cliff, at its southern termination, which is 7 feet 3 inches high, it is only 2 feet 7 inches thick. There is a bar-hole, 10 inches high, 9 inches broad,

gallery, which is about 3 feet 9 inches wide, remain in position at three places, and the inner face of the outer portion of the wall stands 3 feet 6 inches above them. This outer half of the wall is 5 feet 4 inches thick. On the inside the wall measures 52 feet in length from the entrance to the edge of the cliff. See *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. XXVII., pp. 341-6. Martin remarks of Berneray: "There is an old fort in this island, having a vacuity round the walls, divided in little apartments."

Barra lxx. 10 June 1915.

(DUNS.)

451. Dun, Biruaslum, Vatersay.—On the west coast of Vatersay is a small island measuring about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from east to west and slightly less from north to south. It forms a domical rocky cone rising to a height of 229 feet above

the Atlantic. Its sides are generally precipitous, but towards the land on the east and to the south-east the rock slopes gradually up out of the water. A narrow, rocky gorge, bordered by a cliff 20 feet high on the landward side, cuts it off from the larger island. Only for a short time between the tides is this gorge dry, and as the islet is fully exposed to the Atlantic it is accessible only in good weather. Beyond the rocky gorge a flat shelf of limited area leads on to a gentle grassy slope, on which are numerous stones, possibly the remains of small stone buildings. Above this is a strong stone wall, the ends of which rest on the rocky shore about 100 yards apart, and which curves up for about 50 yards from the base of the hill. Viewed from the shore the outer face of the wall, that is on the concave and lower side, stands about 3 feet high, and it seems to be about 9 feet thick. On the north-western curve several bluffs of rock interpose, and the wall is discontinued at these places. On a shelf on the southern side of the island there are quantities of stones, said to be the remains of circular buildings of various sizes.

Barra lxvi (unnoted). 12 June 1915.

452. Promontory Fort, Dun Mingulay, Mingulay.—On the south-west of the island of Mingulay is a peninsula with precipitous sides rising from nearly 300 to over 400 feet above the water and connected with the island by a narrow ridged isthmus. The peninsula, which is $\frac{3}{8}$ mile in length from north-east to south-west, and about 300 yards across at its widest part, is known as Dun Mingulay, and has been defended by a stone wall built across the end of the peninsula facing the approaching ridge. It has for the most part disappeared, but in one place shows an outer face of drystone building standing some 3 feet in height.

Barra lxx (unnoted). 10 June 1915.

453. Promontory Fort, Dun Briste, Berneray.—On the north-west of the island of Berneray is a small promontory running westward into the Atlantic, with precipitous flanks rising about 300 feet above the sea. This promontory, known as Dun Briste, is defended by a stone wall built across the landward end. The wall is much dilapidated and measures about 75 feet in length, and varies from 5 to 10 feet in width.

The remains consist of two rows of stone slabs set on edge on the outer and inner faces, the interior apparently having been filled in with stone and earth. The entrance is not distinguishable. Abutting on the inside of the wall are several hut circles of stone, of which the best preserved lies behind the southern end of the wall and measures about 12 feet in diameter internally.

Barra lxx. 10 June 1915.

454. Dun, Loch nic Ruaidhe, Balnabodach.—Surrounded by hills, about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile west of Balnabodach, at an elevation of nearly 200 feet above sea-level, is a small loch called Loch nic Ruaidhe, on which are several small islets. On one of the smallest, in the north-east corner of the loch, about 30 yards from the northern shore, is a tumbled mass of stones, the ruins of a dun, rising some 8 feet above the water, and surmounted by a luxurious growth of ferns, brambles and brushwood. Viewed from the shore practically no building can be seen, but evidently the dun has been oval on plan, with the wall built round the water's edge. Stretching out from the northern shore of the loch towards the dun is a number of boulders, possibly the commencement of a sunk causeway.

Barra lxxv. 7 June 1915.

455. Dun, Bay Hirivagh, North Bay.—On a rocky tidal islet, in one of the recesses at the south-west end of Bay Hirivagh, about 350 yards east-north-east of the United Free Church at North Bay, is a very dilapidated dun. The dun is connected with the southern shore of the bay by a massive stone causeway some 35 yards long, which probably has been enlarged since the demolition of the fort began. It is built on the north-western end of the rock, about 4 feet above high-water mark. The outer face of the building has been removed, and the structure now appears as a shapeless mound of stone and earth, about 10 feet high, with a hollow on the summit overgrown with brambles. A very few of the foundation-stones on the south-eastern curve remain in position. The dun measures externally some 55 feet from north-west to south-east, and about 35 feet across.

Barra lxiii. 14 June 1915.



FIG. 192—Dun Chlif, Cliad (No. 448).



FIG. 193—Chambered Cairn, Dun Bharpa, Borve (No. 457):



FIG. 194—Standing Stones, Borve (No. 461).

456. Dun, Bay Hirivagh, North Bay.—In one of the southern arms of Bay Hirivagh, some 300 yards south-east of the last dun (No. 455), is another tidal rocky islet occupied by the ruins of a dun, and also connected with the southern shore of the bay by a stone causeway of large dimensions some 40 yards in length. The building is now a shapeless mass of stone and earth, overgrown with grass, standing about 6 feet in height, and built about 5 feet above high-water mark. A short arc of the inner face of the wall on the east can be traced, showing that the building was probably circular with an internal diameter of 30 feet, and a few stones of the outer face are to be seen in position on the south-east.

Barra lxiii (unnoted). 14 June 1915.

CAIRNS.

457. Chambered Cairn, Dun Bharpa, Borve.—The monument marked on the O.S. map and known in the locality as Dun Bharpa is not a dun but a chambered cairn, which, though much pulled about, is a very interesting example of this type of structure. It lies almost on the summit of the saddle between Beinn Mhartuin and Grianan at an elevation of over 400 feet above sea-level, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-east of the township of Borve. It is hemmed in by hills and only to the north a glimpse of the sea, the Atlantic, is obtained. It is circular in shape, and measures about 85 feet in diameter, and some 17 feet in height. Apparently it has been higher, as the cover stone of the chamber is laid bare, and the whole top of the mound is pitted with hollows 4 and 5 feet in depth. It is encircled by a ring of standing stones, mostly of considerable magnitude, set up within the margin of the cairn. These stones are rough slabs of gneiss placed at irregular intervals round the structure. Fifteen of them can still be counted, of which ten are on the western semicircle and five on the eastern, but on the latter side probably some are wanting. Several are displaced and overthrown, but the great majority seem to occupy their original position. On the south-western arc, where there are no vacancies, six are placed on a curve 63 feet in length. Two of the slabs to the south show a

height of 5 feet 8 inches, and 6 feet 9 inches above the stones in which they are embedded, and they measure 3 feet and 4 feet 2 inches in breadth respectively. One on the east is 7 feet in height and 4 feet 4 inches broad, and a very rough slab on the north, which is overthrown, is 8 feet 9 inches in length, and 3 feet 4 inches in breadth. What appears to be the cover stone of the chamber, as already mentioned, lies exposed on the summit of the cairn slightly to the east of the centre. It is a fine, large, irregularly shaped slab, 9 feet 10 inches long, 5 feet 8 inches wide at most, and about 1 foot thick; beside it lies a long, narrow stone measuring 6 feet 9 inches in length. Beneath the large slab is a mass of tumbled stones, so that no part of the building of the chamber can be distinguished. Between this and the eastern side of the cairn are numerous slabs of large size all displaced. As similar stones are not to be detected at other parts, it is not unlikely that these may have formed part of the entrance passage. There is no trace of the portal on the edge of the cairn. (Fig. 193.)

Barra lxiv. 5 June 1915.

458. Chambered Cairn, Balnacraig.—Near the head of the glen between the hills Grianan and Skaalo, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east of the township of Balnacraig, is a ruined chambered cairn marked "Dun" on O.S. map. It occupies a plateau on the southern side of the glen at an elevation of nearly 300 feet above sea-level. The cairn has been quite dismantled to provide material to build later structures, the ruins of which not only encroach on the cairn, but cover the adjoining ground, especially to the north. The greater part of the cairn has been removed, but a number of large slabs, some set on end and others dislodged, indicate approximately the position and some of the dimensions of the burial chamber. Its walls have been formed of large stones set on end, and the spaces between and above them filled in with drystone building. It has been oval on plan, measuring some 16 feet from north to south. At the southern end one slab remains in position and measures 4 feet 1 inch in height above the stones with which its base is encumbered, and is 4 feet in breadth. Two undisturbed stones at the north end measure 3 feet 3 inches and 4 feet 8 inches in height respectively, and 3 feet 11 inches

and 3 feet 7 inches in breadth. There are several other stones set on edge, but they seem to have been shifted from their original position, and two flat slabs, measuring 5 feet 4 inches long, 4 feet 10 inches broad, and 1 foot 7 inches thick, and 5 feet long, 4 feet 8 inches broad, and 1 foot 4 inches thick, lying within the setting, may have formed part of the roof. The mound of stones extends about 40 feet west of the centre of the chamber, but on the east it has been nearly cleared away. Some 20 feet north of the chamber there is a mound of stones, 46 feet in diameter, showing in two places slight indications of the wall of a circular building. Farther to the north of this are the ruins of rectangular buildings, and there are traces of numerous small circular enclosures in the vicinity. These are evidently of late date.

Barra lxiv. 5 June 1915.

459. Cairn, Tigh Talamhanta, Cuier.—At An Criathrach, on a grassy slope at the base of Cora Bheinn, about $\frac{7}{8}$ mile south-south-east of Cuier, and 650 yards north-east of the chambered cairn (No 457), at an elevation of 400 feet above sea-level, is a dilapidated cairn, possibly chambered, overgrown with grass. It has been too much destroyed for accurate measurement, but seems to have been at least 75 feet in diameter, and is now some 10 feet in height. At its north-north-western base is a detached grass-covered mound of stones of considerable size.

The name Tigh Talamhanta given to it on the O.S. map is apparently the same name as Tigh Talamh used for earth-houses in Skye and North Uist, and suggests that, when it received this name, there had been a house-like structure within the mound, doubtless the burial chamber.

Barra lxiv. 5 June 1915.

STANDING STONES.

460. Standing Stones, Druim a Charra, Breivig.—On the summit of the ridge, Druim a Charra, on the spur running down eastwards from Heaval to Breivig, about 250 yards north of Cruachain, at an elevation of about 250 feet above sea-level, are two fine standing stones of gneiss, one overthrown. The stone which is still standing has a considerable slant

to the south-south-west, is of triangular section at the base, broadens till within 2 feet 6 inches of the top, and terminates in a point. It measures 9 feet 2 inches in height, and 6 feet 10 inches in girth at the base. The prostrate stone lies 14 feet 6 inches to the south. It is 10 feet 7 inches long, 6 feet 2 inches wide near one end, and 3 feet 9 inches wide about 2 feet from the opposite end, while it is at least 2 feet thick. It was overthrown for a wager, but before that it is said that the narrow end was fixed in the ground, and, as it has fallen towards its neighbour, it must have stood originally about 24 feet 6 inches distant from it, although the broad end is now only 14 feet 6 inches away.

Barra lxiv (unnoted). 7 June 1915.

461. Standing Stones, Borve.—Some 80 yards west of the main road at the township of Borve, on a sandy machair, at an elevation of less than 50 feet above sea-level, are two standing stones of gneiss set 36 feet apart in a line running north-east and south-west. The eastern stone, which inclines considerably towards the east, is a rough pillar measuring 5 feet 5 inches in height, 2 feet in width near the base, and about 7 inches in thickness; the other stone, which is overthrown, is a four-sided prism with blunt pointed top measuring 9 feet 7 inches in length, 1 foot 8 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 2 inches in thickness. (Fig. 194.)

According to the O.S. map human remains were found here.

Barra lxiv. 5 June 1915.

462. Standing Stone, Cuithe Heillanish, Vatersay.—Crossing the ridge between the township of Vatersay and the south-western shore of the island is a slight hollow with rocky edges, near the highest point of which, 150 feet above sea-level and about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile south-west of the township, at a place called Cuithe Heillanish, is a standing stone of gneiss 5 feet 6 inches in height, 2 feet 1 inch broad at the base, and 1 foot 6 inches thick. The upper part, owing to the natural fracture of the stone, is almost square, measuring about 1 foot each way, and the top is quite flat. It inclines slightly to the west. Though placed in a hollow in the hills, it commands a fine view of the sea and islands to the south-west, and of both Vatersay Bay and Castle Bay to north-

east. It stands on the line of the wall of an old cuithe or stock enclosure.

Barra lxvi (unnoted). 12 June 1915.

463. Stone Setting, Crois an t-Suidheachain, Mingulay.—On a rocky plateau standing about 20 feet above sea-level above the south-western corner of Mingulay Bay are three different stone foundations known as Crois an t-Suidheachain, where open-air mass is said to have been celebrated. The central structure, which is rectangular, measures 9 feet 9 inches from east to west internally and 8 feet 3 inches across. Some 5 feet 6 inches to the north is a similar stone setting, measuring 6 feet in length by 3 feet 8 inches in breadth internally. A slab set on end crosswise divides the structure, so that the western compartment is only 4 feet in length. This setting resembles a short cist. About 9 feet to the south-east of the central building is a sub-oval foundation measuring some 4 feet across. At its north-eastern end is a block of stone 1 foot 10 inches broad, 1 foot 6 inches thick, and 1 foot 10 inches high. All the other stones rise only a few inches above ground.

See Muir's *Ecclesiological Notes*, pp. 54, 257.

Barra lxx. 10 June 1915.

SITES.

464. Cille Bhrianain, Vatersay.—Just above the shore on the west side of Uinessan, a tidal islet at the extreme east of Vatersay, is an old burying ground containing the foundations of an old church of stone and lime. Accurate dimensions are not obtainable, but the building has been oblong and orientated east-north-east and west-south-west. It has been about 37 feet long and 16 feet 6 inches broad externally.

The place is known as Caibéal Moire nan Ceann ("Chapel of Mary of the heads") after a Coll lady, who married a Macneil of Barra and was notorious for having beheaded every one to whom she took a dislike. She wished to be buried within sight of her loved island of Coll, and it was only when the burial party reached this spot that they saw that the island of Muldoanich intervened, but being tired they interred her here.

Barra lxvi. 12 June 1915.

465. Chapel, Cille Bhride, Sandray.—In an old burying ground above the shore to the south-east of Bagh Ban, near the north-east corner of Sandray, are faint traces of the ancient chapel of Cille Bhride. The larger part of the site is occupied by a sheep fank, but a corner of its foundations built of stone and lime can be detected.

Barra lxvi. 11 June 1915.

466. St Columba's Chapel, Mingulay.—No traces of St Columba's Chapel are to be seen. It stood above the shore at the north-west corner of Mingulay Bay, a sandy bay on the east side of the island.

Barra lxx. 10 June 1915.

467. Chapel, Maclean's Point, Berneray.—Near Maclean's Point some 350 yards east by south of the landing jetty on the island of Berneray and about 50 yards from the shore in an old burying ground is the site of a church, all traces of which have disappeared.

CROSS SLAB.—Set up at the head of a grave is a small slab of gneiss, 22 inches high and 13 inches broad, with a small cross, 10 inches long and 4½ inches broad, incised on one face. The upper arm and the shaft of the cross are terminated "potent." (Fig. 176.)

Barra lxx. 10 June 1915.

468. Dun, Geirum More.—The small island of Geirum More, which lies about 200 yards from the south-western point of Mingulay, at the west end of the Sound of Berneray, is marked "dun" on O.S. map. This islet rising over 50 feet direct from the sea is with difficulty accessible at the east end, and only in very fine weather. No traces of fortifications are noticeable from either of the adjoining islands of Berneray or Mingulay, but it is said that the foundations of a church of stone and lime can be traced on it and that there is a boat-slip above high-water mark on the eastern end.

Barra lxx. 10 June 1915.

469. Dun na Cille, Borve Point.—This site lies on the shore, south of St Brendan's Chapel (No. 437). No trace of the dun is to be seen.

Barra lxiv. 5 June 1915.

470. Dun Borve, Borve.—On the summit of a sand-covered hill on the east side of the road at Borve, at an elevation of 50 feet above sea-level, is the site of Dun Borve. Every trace of building has either been removed or covered with sand.

Barra lxiv. 7 June 1915.

471. Dun an t'Sleibh, Borve.—The site of Dun an t'Sleibh is the summit of a rocky eminence at the township of Borve, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of the main road. The building has been completely removed.

Barra lxiv. 7 June 1915.

472. Dun, Vatersay Township.—On the summit of a small hill, about 150 feet above sea-level, some 400 yards west of the township of Vatersay, is the site of a dun. All the stones have been cleared away with the exception of a few of the outer foundation stones. The building seems to have been circular with an external diameter of 41 feet. There are suggestions of an outer courtyard to the east.

Barra lxvi. 12 June 1915.

473. Tigh Talamhanta, Balnacraig.—The place marked Tigh Talamhanta (site of) on the O.S. map, about 30 yards above the right bank of the burn, Allt Gunnary, in the east end of the township of Balnacraig, is only a site, all traces of a structure having disappeared. The name means "earth-house," but it has been applied to a monument nearly 1 mile to the north-east (No. 459), which is apparently a ruined chambered cairn. The local nomenclature of two other antiquities in the immediate neighbourhood is also misleading; the ruined chambered cairn (No. 458) $\frac{5}{8}$ mile to the east, is named "Dun," and the fine monument of the same class, "Dun Bharpa" (No. 457), is similarly termed. The last mistake is surprising, as the word "bharpa" really means a cairn, and is used in the adjoining island of South Uist as well as in North Uist, in Skye, and probably in a degraded form in Lewis.

Barra lxiv. 7 June 1915.

SKYE.

PARISH OF BRACADALE.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

474. Church (Kilmoruy (Maolrubha)), Borline.—At Borline on the western shore of the inner end of Loch Eynort are two roofless churches, the larger probably of the 18th century and the smaller earlier. The latter is an oblong structure, orientated $102\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ mag., and measuring 26 feet 5 inches in length and 15 feet 8 inches in breadth externally. The walls, 2 feet 5 inches thick, still stand 7 feet 6 inches high above present level of interior. The wall head is angled to conform with the slope of the thatch. Some 10 feet 2 inches from the floor at the east end there is a scarcement on the gable, the same feature appearing in the west gable. The door, 2 feet 7 inches wide and now 4 feet high, with checks on either side and widely splayed internally, is placed 12 feet 2 inches from the east end of the south wall, and a window 7 feet 4 inches from the west end measures 11 inches wide at the outside and 2 feet 6 inches high. There are also windows in the west end and northern wall, the former 11 inches wide and 2 feet 6 inches high, and the latter, which is placed 6 feet $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the east end, 1 foot $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide. A window in the east end is placed 6 feet from the ground. The windows have jambs rounded at corners, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep and with a rebate $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep inside, behind which they are widely splayed.

The later church lies a short distance to the west.

Font.—A fine font of 15th or 16th-century date which was found in the churchyard is now preserved in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh, and the circumstances of its discovery and preservation have been fully related in the *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. XXI., pp. 412-8. The bowl, of hornblendic gneiss, is circular, and it has no drain. The exterior is embellished with figure subjects and other designs in high relief (Figs. 195-6-7-8-9). The four figure subjects, representing The Crucifixion, St Michael, The Virgin and Child, and a mitred bishop, are so arranged as to divide the bowl into four panels, two of which, one



FIG. 195—The Virgin and Child.

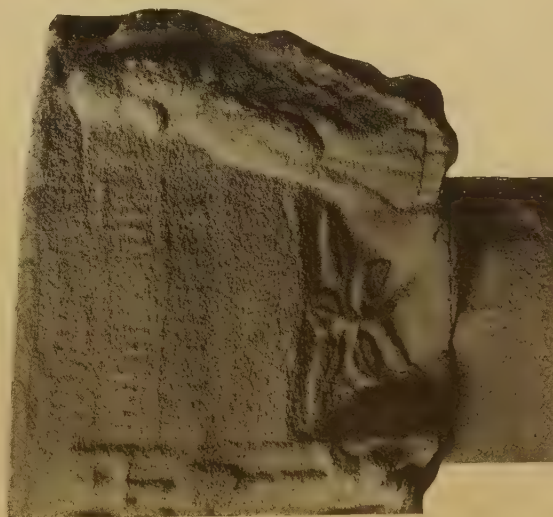


FIG. 197—Inscription.



FIG. 196—St. Michael.

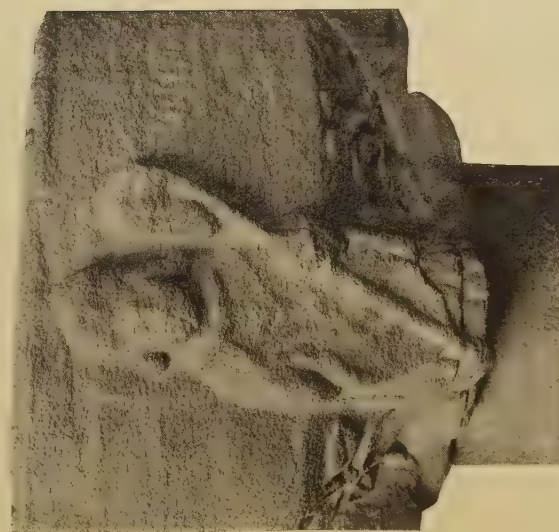


FIG. 198—Mitted Bishop.

FONT FROM KILMORUY, BORLINE (No. 474).



FIG. 199—The Crucifixion

on either side of the Crucifixion representation, are occupied by an effective interlaced work, while the other two bear very worn inscriptions, in part almost obliterated, that have not, so far, been deciphered. A date, apparently MCCCCXXX, is faintly discernible. The lower portion of the bowl recedes in sloping and tapering panels, between the figures, three of these panels being ornamented by foliaceous designs, and the fourth by a conventional rose. Beneath the figures there are four slight rolled projections with the ends returning on each sloping panel near its centre. The dimensions are :—

Diameter of bowl	... 1 foot 6½ inches
Height of bowl	... 13 inches
Diameter internally	... 12¾ inches
Depth	... 7½ inches

CROSS SHAFT. —Near the centre of the kirk-yard is the fragment of a cross shaft broken at both ends measuring 4 feet 9 inches in length and tapering from a width of 11½ inches and a thickness of 3½ inches at the base to a width of 8½ inches and a thickness of 2¾ inches at the top. On the front of the shaft, in a panel bordered by two broad mouldings with a narrow beading between, is the figure of an abbot 14½ inches in length carved in high relief. He is clad in alb, chasuble, stole and amice, and has a rather high mitre on his head, from the right side of which depends an infula. His right hand has two fingers raised in the act of benediction and his left hand grasps a crozier, the crook of which runs into the moulding on the edge of the panel. He is placed under a plain canopy with pointed arch. Above is the figure of Christ on the Cross, the break in the stone being just below the waist; the legs are bare with one foot superimposed on the other; the shaft of the cross to which he is nailed has ragged edges. On the dexter side of the panel alongside the moulding is the inner half of what appears to be a palm branch, being a design with deeply serrated edges.

On the back of the shaft is a panel bordered by a single flat moulding and bearing a foliaceous and zoomorphic design. On either side of a central wavy stem springs a conventional foliaceous pattern, the lower portion taking the form of five spiked holly leaves and the higher of rosettes of five and six petals. The top of the stem terminates in a bunch of foliage.

The animal at the base shows the head elevated and mouth open; the feet are provided with sharp claws and three of them remain on the ground, while the fourth, one of the fore feet, is raised in the air. The tail curves forward between the legs and upwards across the body and is continued as the stem of the foliaceous design. (Figs. 266, 267.)

CARVED SLABS.—There are four grave slabs of dark blue mica schist in the burying ground with a claymore, or one and a half-handed sword, and foliaceous designs carved on their upper surface. Near the west end of the church-yard is the best preserved slab, which measures 5 feet 8 inches in length, 20 inches in width at the top and 16½ inches at the base, and 3 inches in thickness (Fig. 245). It is bordered with a flat moulding and a bead inside and is divided into two divisions. The upper panel bears a cross of eight rays with a foliaceous design between them and also in the four corners. Beneath is a claymore with straight quillons terminating in a quatrefoil with three slight projections placed crosswise; the pommel is circular with a blunt spike on the top. Beneath the quillon on the dexter side is an animal with one of the forepaws raised, and the tail brought forward between the legs and recurved over the haunch is the commencement of an interlaced foliaceous design carried to the foot of the slab. On the sinister side is a somewhat similar design, only the animal has a round, human-like face with protruding ears. On either side of the hilt the ornamentation has been obliterated. The second slab lies beside the last and bears a claymore with quillons set at right angles to the hilt and a foliaceous design on either side. Above is a rayed cross. The stone is much worn and slightly broken.

The third slab, which also lies at the west end of the enclosure, is even more defaced, but a claymore is distinguishable.

The last slab lies near the centre of the kirkyard. It is 6 feet 4 inches long, and has been over 22 inches wide at the top and 18 inches at the bottom. There is a rayed and floriated cross in the top panel and below a claymore with depressed quillons flanked on either side by a foliaceous design. The ornamentation is almost obliterated.

Lying near the cross shaft is a discoid stone of dark blue mica schist, measuring from 20 to

22 inches in diameter and 7 inches in thickness. On the top is a circular stone of about 11 inches diameter and 3 inches thickness with a festooned moulding round the outside and pierced by a hole in the centre $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches square.

There is also a moulded stone, possibly part of a lintel or jamb.

Syke xxxvii. 15 May 1915.

475. Grave Slabs, Bracadale.—In the kirk-yard beside the parish church of Bracadale, near Struanmore, which is said to be built near or on the site of the ancient chapel of St Assind,¹ are two grave slabs with a claymore and foliaceous designs carved on each. One is in a good state of preservation and measures 6 feet 2 inches in length, $19\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth at the top, and 17 inches at the foot. In the upper portion is a foliaceous cross, and under it is a claymore with drooping quillons and a fan-shaped pommel divided into seven ribs. On one side of the sword-blade is a running scroll of foliaceous work and on the other side a scroll of a more open floriated and foliaceous design. A portion of the slab at the foot is much worn and any ornamentation, if it ever existed, has been obliterated (Fig. 246.) A third stone, $6\frac{1}{4}$ by 2 feet, bears in high relief the effigy of a warrior clad in a surcoat. The head rests on a cushion. The sword lies along the body.

¹ *Orig. Par.*, vol. ii., part 1, p. 357.

Syke xxviii. (unnoted). 20 May 1915.

476. Church, Merkadale, Loch Harport.—In a small churchyard on the southern shore of the inner end of Loch Harport, at Merkadale, are the ruins of a church orientated nearly east-north-east and west-south-west. The walls, built of stone and shell lime, are reduced to an average height of from 2 to 3 feet, and measure 2 feet 3 inches in thickness at the sides and 2 feet 7 inches at the gables. The building is oblong, measuring internally 24 feet 9 inches in length and 11 feet 8 inches in breadth. The door, of which only the right jamb can be traced, is near the western end of the south wall. The windows have entirely disappeared.

Syke xxxiv (unnoted). 17 May 1915.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(BROCHS.)

477. Dun Sleadale, Talisker.—Dun Sleadale is a broch which though in a ruinous condition is rather better preserved in parts than the great majority of this class of buildings in Skye. It occupies the south-western and higher extremity of a short, narrow, rocky ridge, in a high glen about 400 yards west of the Sleadale Burn, barely $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south of Talisker House, at an elevation of over 500 feet above sea-level. To the west there is rising ground, so that the sea, although little more than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distant, is not within sight. In this respect it is unlike the other Skye brochs. The ridge rises some 20 feet on the west and about 35 feet on the east above the hillside. The outer face of the wall stands 8 feet high on the south-east and 5 feet on the east and north-west; on the south-west only the foundation course remains, and on the south-south-east where there is a high knob of rock it has disappeared. In the interior there is a great mass of fallen stones hiding much of the structure. Building is visible along nearly the whole of the northern arc, and, at the north-north-west it stands 4 feet above 7 feet of fallen stones. Towards the south-east about 4 feet remains in position, but this is obscured by debris. The internal diameter varies from 39 feet from north-west to south-east to 37 feet 6 inches from north-east to south-west. The wall at its present summit generally is about 9 feet thick, but at the entrance, which is placed towards the east-north-east, it is 10 feet 3 inches thick, this measurement being nearer the foundation. At the outside the entrance passage is 2 feet 10 inches wide, but about 3 feet in there are checks on either side; that on the north side is best preserved, measuring 6 inches in depth. Between the checks and the inside the walls curve slightly, giving a width of 4 feet 2 inches about the centre of the passage, and 3 feet 1 inch on the inside. The interior of the entrance is blocked with stones, but one lintel remains in position. In the wall some 3 feet 6 inches to the right of the entrance the end of a narrow gallery is seen, while on the opposite side, at a distance of 5 feet, part of another gallery with its lintel stones in position

remains over a distance of 5 feet. It measures about 3 feet 3 inches in width, and is half full of stones. Nearly opposite the entrance the doorway, leading into a gallery within the wall, in a very ruinous state can be detected. The gallery extends to the right, and on the north-west about 5 feet of the lintels of the lower gallery maintain their position. Above them one course of the outer wall of an upper gallery is seen. The wall here is slightly displaced, but the upper gallery seems to be about 2 feet wide, its inner wall 2 feet 6 inches thick and its outer wall 3 feet. The outer face of the wall of the broch shows a distinct inward batter.

Skye xxxvii. 19 May 1915.

478. Dun (Beinn nan Dubh-lochan), Ard an t-Sabhail.—About 2 miles north by west of



FIG. 200.—Dun Ard an t-Sabhail (No. 478.)

Talisker House is Beinn nan Dubh-lochan near Ard an t-Sabhail, a rugged peak rising to a height of 600 feet above sea-level and overlooking Loch Bracadale, which lies about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to the north. The hill rises for the last hundred feet in a steep slope crowned by rocky crags almost unscalable for the greater part. On its southern shoulder is a lower peak

separated by a narrow hollow from the higher peak, and on a shelf slightly below the summit of the latter, overlooking the lower peak and rising about 50 feet above the intervening hollow, is a ruined broch (Fig. 278). The wall is a heap of fallen stones from the south round the west to the north, but one short section on the north-east shows a height of 6 feet still standing, and on the inside the face of the wall is traceable along the eastern arc. The best preserved part is on the south-east, where a scarcement 9 inches wide is seen 2 feet above the tumbled stones, the wall showing 2 feet more of building above the scarcement. The broch is nearly circular, measuring from 34 feet 7 inches to 36½ feet in diameter internally. The wall is 9 to 12 feet thick, and at the entrance, which lies in the east, it is 10 feet 7 inches thick. The north wall of the entrance can be traced, but the opposite side is somewhat broken and obscured. The passage seems to taper from 4 feet 7 inches in width to 3 feet on the inside and there is no trace of checks. There is a roofless oval cell, a guard chamber, about 7 feet in length and 5 feet 2 inches wide in the thickness of the wall to the south of the entrance passage, from which it has been entered, and probably a similar chamber has existed on the north side. Traces of a narrow gallery 2 feet 2 inches wide in the interior of the wall on the south are evident, and on the north-east the inner wall, 4 feet thick, of a gallery can be detected.

A gully on the north-east side of the rock has been blocked up by a stone breastwork immediately under the wall of the broch. The foundations of a wall 6 to 8 feet thick leave the broch wall on the south-west and swing round the rocky south-western edge of a terrace for some 75 feet, whence they return eastwards, with a break for an entrance, for about 35 feet, then die out on the rocky face of the hillside. The roadway runs through this entrance, which lies from 52 to 64 feet from the broch, is 12 feet in length, and varies from 4 feet 3 inches to 6 feet 6 inches in width. From the middle of the south-western wall of this defence, another wall, 5 feet in thickness, has run easterly, then northerly, towards the broch, and forms an enclosure about 31 feet in length by about 24 feet in width.

Skye xxxiii. 16 June 1921.

479. Dun Beag, Struanmore. — On one of the numerous rocky flat-topped eminences on the rough rising ground overlooking Loch Bracadale from the east, some 500 yards north-west of the school at Struanmore, and about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile from the sea-shore, at an elevation of about 200 feet above sea-level, are the ruins of Dun Beag, one of the best preserved brochs in Skye. It occupies the north-western end of

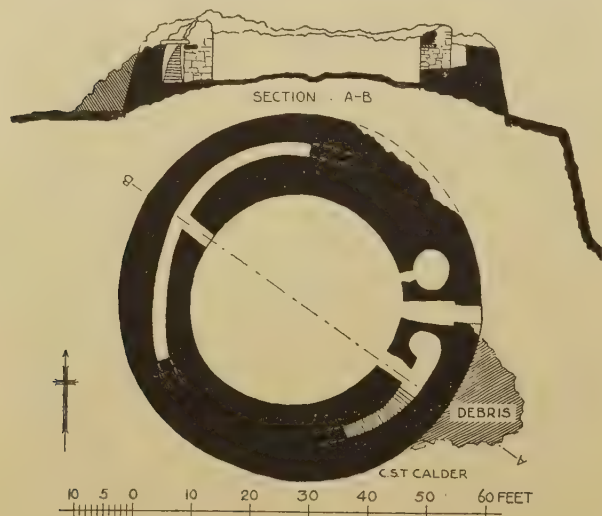


FIG. 201.—Dun Beag, Struanmore (No. 479).

a small irregular plateau which rises about 12 feet above a hollow intervening between it and the hill country to the north-east; in the opposite direction the ground falls away in a steep descent towards the sea, and round the north-western extremity is a rocky bluff, with a stony talus chiefly formed of stones fallen from the walls about 30 feet in height. The broch, which is erected within a few feet of the edge of the rock, is circular in shape and has an external diameter of 62 feet. (Fig. 205.)

Except at the north-east, where it has been torn down, the outer face of the building remains in a fine state of preservation, showing excellent drystone masonry formed of blocks laid in regular courses; the interior face is irregularly coursed of rougher material. From the north to the west the walls show in places a height of 11 and 12 feet, the courses being almost 1 foot thick on average; on the southern arc the blocks of stone are generally larger and the wall seems to be about 8 feet in height. The wall varies from 11½ feet to 13 feet 9 inches in thickness.

The entrance lies to the east; a fine slab forms the threshold of the passage-way which, much broken down, measures 3 feet in width outside and 4 feet 3 inches inwards; it is widened by door checks 8 inches deep on each side, from which it narrows to 2 feet 11 inches inside. A lintelled doorway, 1 foot 6 inches wide, 2 feet 2 inches deep, and 3 feet northwards from the entrance inside, leads from the court into an almost circular beehive cell measuring from 6 feet 2 inches to 6 feet 7 inches in diameter. Another doorway, with the inner lintel stone in position and leading into a gallery in the wall, is situated 7 feet south of the entrance and is 2 feet 8 inches in width at the outside, 3 feet on the inside, 5 feet in length, and 5 feet 7 inches in height under the lintel. Immediately to the north, the gallery terminates in an oval chamber measuring 4 feet 7 inches by 6 feet 2 inches and 5 feet 6 inches in height, with the roof beehived, but to the south it contains 20 steps of a stair. Two lintels remain in position above the gallery at the left side of the entrance, and one above the stair. At the top of the staircase the gallery is about 2 feet 3 inches wide, the wall on the inside 5 feet and on the outside 6½ feet. Diametrically opposite in the north-western arc an opening in the inner wall 2 feet 7 inches wide, 5 feet 3 inches long, with sill raised 2 feet 3 inches above the rough surface of the interior, has given access to a second gallery with ends lost in debris, but still measuring 50 feet in length and 2 feet 2 inches in width. (Figs. 202-4.)

During excavation in 1915 by the Countess Vincent Baillet de Latour, F.S.A.Scot., part of a rough wall abutting on the inside of the main wall to the north-west and extending towards the centre was laid bare but is now removed. About 18 inches from the top was a mass of red burnt earth, the debris of a peat fire, indicating that the superstructure was of later date. About 5 feet 6 inches from the foundation of the wall towards the south-west was a thin layer of periwinkle shells indicating a late level of occupation. There were also remains of peat fires close to the small shell layers. A miscellaneous collection of relics, some of comparatively recent date, were recovered during the course of the excavation.¹

The outer wall has a batter, and in the first

¹ See further *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. LV., pp. 110-31.



FIG. 202—The Stair.

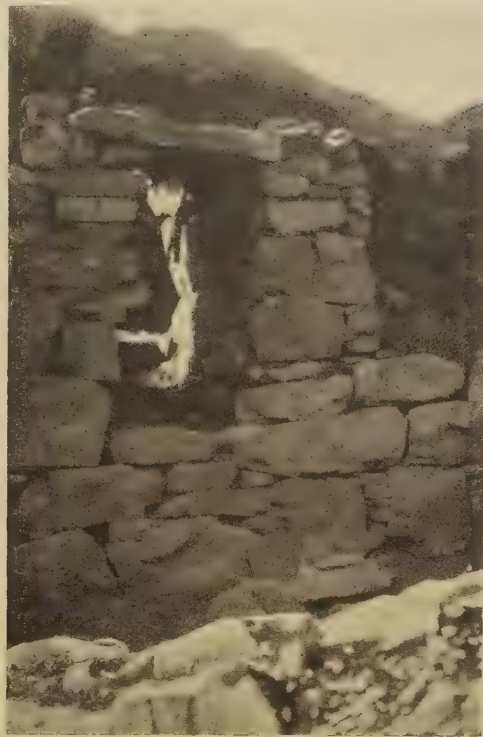


FIG. 203—Entrance to Gallery.



FIG. 204—The Entrance.

DUN BEAG, STRUANMORE (No. 479).

To face p. 142.

four or five courses the face of the upper stone is laid about 1 inch inwards from that of the stone below it.

Skye xxviii. 11 June 1921.

480. Broch, Dun Arkaig, Glen Ose.—The ruined broch Dun Arkaig occupies the summit of a rocky eminence whose stepped sides rise some 30 to 50 feet above the slope on the southern side of Glen Ose, or Glen Colbost as it is termed in its upper reaches. Standing at a height of some 300 feet above sea-level, and 150 feet above the River Ose, which runs down the bottom of the wide glen some 600 yards to the north-west, the broch dominates the second largest green glen in Skye, and looking to the south-west gets a glimpse of the inner part of Loch Bracadale and the Sea of the Hebrides outside.

It is in a dilapidated condition, the outer part of the wall being reduced to a height ranging from 3 to 5 feet on the east, south and west, and to the foundation on the north. The inner portion of the wall apparently stands from 3 to 7 feet in height, but it is entirely hidden by the stones which encumber the interior. The wall seems to be about 13 feet thick at the foundation, and as the external diameter is about 54 feet the internal diameter would be 28 feet, rather less than usual, with the wall thicker than in the usual Skye broch. The entrance is in the north-east, but it is blocked with stones. It measures 3 feet in width at the outside. In the thickness of the wall on the east a ruined gallery can be detected; it is clearly defined at its rounded southern end. As it approaches this extremity it widens gradually till it reaches a full width of 5 feet, the outer portion of the wall at this part measuring 3 feet 10 inches and the inner portion 4 feet 4 inches. On the west side is seen a section of an outer casing wall, 5 feet 6 inches thick at the base, rising about 3 feet in height with a rapid batter, built against the main wall of the broch. The building in this piece of structure does not equal that of the main building.

Skye xxviii. 25 May 1915.

481. Broch, Abhuinn Bhaile Mheadhonaich.—Immediately to the east of the road from Dunvegan to Struanmore, and overlooking the

mouth of the burn Abhuinn Bhaile Mheadhonaich, which falls into the east side of Loch Caroy, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from its inner end, and occupying a rocky knoll, some 30 to 40 feet high, which surmounts the steep rise from the shore of the loch, is a very dilapidated broch. It stands about 200 feet above sea-level and some 300 yards east of the shore of the loch. The wall has been reduced to the foundation course outside, and inside it is practically covered with stones. It now appears as a ring of stone and earth 4 to 6 feet in height. The internal diameter measures from 36 to 37 feet, and the wall from 11 feet 6 inches to 12 feet in thickness.

Skye xxviii (unnoted). 25 May 1915.

(PROBABLE BROCHS.)

482. Dun Garsin, Bracadale.—Dun Garsin occupies a commanding position on a table-topped hill rising in an inaccessible rocky slope to a height of over 100 feet above the north-western shore of Loch Beag, about 600 yards east of the parish church at Bracadale. On the north-north-west, from which direction it is accessible, it rises in rocky escarpments and terraces about 35 feet above a narrow valley with higher ground beyond. The destruction of the dun has been thorough. The stones were removed to build the revetment on the side of the road to Sligachan many years ago. An outer wall or parapet encircled the summit, but only the faintest traces of it can be detected in places. The area enclosed by it is an irregular oval measuring some 150 feet from north-east to south-west and some 105 feet from north-west to south-east. In the north-north-eastern sector are the remains of the chief building, now showing as a shapeless bank of stones and earth about 14 feet broad and 3 feet high, enclosing a circular space. The external diameter of the building has been about 55 feet. In all probability it has been a broch, as the plan and dimensions suggest this, and there is a length of 6 feet of building with one or two courses in position lying on the south-south-east, which seems to be the inner face of the inner wall of a gallery built in the interior of the wall.

Skye xxviii. 20 May 1915.

(GALLERIED DUNS.)

483. **Dun, Rudh an Dunain.**—On the sea-shore, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of Rudh an Dunain, the promontory at the extremity of the peninsula between Loch Brittle and Soay Sound, looking out to the island of Rum, is an elevated rocky plateau with precipitous sides rising over 50 feet in height above the sea on its southern extremity, and about 15 feet above a narrow neck on the landward side by which access to the summit is obtained. The extreme southern projection of the plateau is occupied by the remains of a dun, of which only a portion of the wall on the landward side remains. Though broken down at the ends and somewhat reduced in height, it is one of the best preserved examples of this class of defence in Skye. Any parapet which may have been erected round the edge of the cliff has disappeared, possibly with the erosion of the rock. The remaining wall is a fine specimen of drystone building and contains a number of interesting features (Fig. 296). It crosses the plateau in a convex curve towards the land, and is built of fine large blocks of stone laid in courses with a considerable inward batter on the outer side; on the inside the lower courses for a height of about 3 feet project about 9 inches from the face of the wall above, forming what may be called a low scarcement. At the foundation the wall is about 12 feet thick and at the highest part 10 feet. The inner face for about half its length stands some 5 feet in height, and the outer face for the greater part reaches a height of 8 feet 6 inches; in the centre however a short section measures 11 feet 3 inches in height above more than 1 foot of debris. The entrance, though much broken down, is clearly defined. It is placed about 12 feet from the northern end of the wall and measures 3 feet 1 inch in width at the outside. On either side of the entrance passage, some 3 feet 9 inches from the outside, is a door check 1 foot deep. The wall on the right side of the entrance, though almost reduced to the foundation, shows a width of 12 feet 3 inches. A large slab lying among the fallen stones in the passage, measuring 4 feet 6 inches in length, 2 feet 10 inches in breadth, and 11 inches in thickness, has probably been a lintel stone. A short distance south of the inside of the main entrance is a doorway leading into a narrow gallery built

in the thickness of the wall. The doorway narrows towards the inside and about half-way in measures 2 feet 10 inches in width; one of its lintels remains *in situ*. The gallery in the wall is filled with stones, but at one part measures some 2 feet 10 inches in width, the outer wall being 3 feet 3 inches thick and the inner wall 3 feet 5 inches. To the south the outer wall at one part is 4 feet 9 inches thick. As the latter piece of building stands 4 feet higher than the top of the lintel over the door of the gallery, there seems to have been an upper gallery.

The interior of the dun is of small area and very irregular on plan, and measures about 80 feet across from cliff to cliff behind the wall, but towards the south contracts to a width of some 47 feet. From the inside of the wall to the southern edge of the precipice is about 36 feet. There is evidence of internal buildings within the dun but the shape of these is indeterminate.

Skye xlix. 17 May 1915.

484. **Dun (Ardtreck), Ardtreck Peninsula.**—On the western shore of the peninsula of Ardtreck, about 650 yards south of Ardtreck Point, is a stack of rock rising in a sheer precipice from the water to a height of over 50 feet, while it rises about 25 feet in two rock-faced terraces above the hollow lying between it and the high ground to the east. The flat summit is occupied by the ruins of Dun Ardtreck, the main wall of which on plan forms about two-thirds of a circle, the chord of the missing part being formed by the edge of the precipice, which shows no traces of even a parapet. It measures 44 feet in diameter internally from north-west to south-east, and 35 feet from the wall at the entrance to the edge of the cliff. What remains of the wall is a fine piece of building, showing an inward batter. Towards the east-north-east for a considerable distance it stands 11 feet high on the outside, 3 to 6 feet of which are hidden by fallen stones. At other parts the wall is very much lower. The wall measures 8 feet 6 inches thick on its present summit, and the entrance has been placed in the centre of the curve facing north-east. It is blocked with tumbled stones, but on the outside it measures 3 feet 3 inches in width, and the jambs remain intact for a height of about 4 feet above a depth of 4 feet of stones which have accumulated in front. None of the lintels remain in position. On both



FIG. 205—Dun Beag, Struanmore (No. 479).



FIG. 206—Dun Hallin (No. 509).



FIG. 207—Dun Borrafiach (No. 510).

sides of the entrance a gallery can be traced within the thickness of the wall, and on the north side it measures 3 feet in width with the outer wall 2 feet 6 inches thick and the inner wall 3 feet. The part of the summit between the building and the rocky bluff towards the land has been protected by a wall built on the edge of the rock, forming an outer ward of irregular crescentic plan. The wall has nearly disappeared but has been 6 feet thick. Springing from the edge of the cliff on the north it swings outwards for a distance first of 32 feet, then 45 feet, and curves back to meet the cliff on the south end. Towards the east is the outer entrance, 4 feet wide, to form which the wall recurves inwards on both sides. This entrance is reached by a steep narrow ridge.

Skye xxxiii. 20 May 1915.

(DUNS.)

485. Dun Diarmaid, Coillore.—On the eastern shore of Loch Beag, at Coillore, is a rocky knoll rising about 30 feet above the loch and some 8 feet above the land to the south. It is crowned by Dun Diarmaid, the stones of which have nearly all been removed. The dun is of small size and is oval on plan, measuring internally some 29 feet from east to west, and 25 feet from north to south. The foundation stones on the outside of the western arc remain in position, and the corresponding stones on the inside of the south-eastern curve. The entrance lies on the south side and is quite destroyed, but the wall on the west side of this shows enough building in position to indicate a thickness of wall at this part of 11 feet 3 inches. Apparently it has been of less strength at other parts. The summit of the rock is very irregular, for on the west side it stands some 5 feet higher than the tumbled material in the interior of the dun.

Skye xxviii. 18 May 1915.

486. Dun, Kraiknish, Loch Eynort.—On an elevated rock, rising about 50 feet above the water, on the southern side of the mouth of Loch Eynort, about 1 mile west of Kraiknish, is a ruined dun. On the flanks the rock has a height of about 25 feet, and on the landward side towards the south-east it is about 15 feet high, and is approached by a steep slope. The defences consist of a stone wall built on the

edge of the rock, and an outer wall built on the slope towards the land with its ends resting on the rocks on the flanks. The inner wall, enclosing a rounded triangular space, measuring some 56 feet from north-east to south-west, and some 52 feet from north-west to south-east internally, has almost disappeared on the sides next the sea, but on the landward side it shows the inner face rising about 4 feet above the interior, and the outer face standing to a height of 7 feet on the south, the remaining section being for the greater part hidden by tumbled stones. At its widest part it is 10 feet 9 inches thick, but it attenuates as it curves back and merges into the side walls. The outer face of the outer wall, showing 3 feet of building at most in position, stands 19 feet from, and apparently about 8 feet lower than, the inner wall. The roadway into the dun lies towards the southern end of the outer wall, which recurves inwards at the entrance. The wall on the left side is broken down, but the entrance seems to have been about 4 feet wide. The roadway slants to the left and enters the enceinte through an inner entrance, also broken down, about 4 feet 4 inches in width.

Skye xliii (unnoted). 15 May 1915.

487. Dun Merkadale.—On the hillside above, and about 450 yards south of the junction of the road to Glen Brittle, at Merkadale, at an elevation of some 350 feet above sea-level, and overlooking the head of Loch Harport, which lies about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the north, near the left bank of a small burn, is a flat-topped rocky eminence rising some 45 feet above the slope of the hill. Occupying the southern end of the plateau are the scanty remains of Dun Merkadale, a dun sub-oval on plan, and measuring internally some 36 feet from north-north-west to south-south-east and about 30 feet in width. The wall, built on the edge of the plateau, has disappeared round the flanks and southern end, and even the section built across the plateau at the northern end shows as only a shapeless mass of stone and earth 9 feet wide and 4 feet high. The entrance has been at the north-west, and is indicated by a few stones remaining in position on the left side. The roadway approaching the entrance slopes up the western side of the eminence, which is less rocky at this part.

Skye xxxviii. 17 May 1915.

488. **Dun Taimh, Beinn Dhubh, Gesto.**—To the north-west of the summit of Beinn Dhubh, a hill rising over 400 feet above sea-level on the eastern side of Loch Harport, near its mouth, is a narrow ridge with a gentle slope and precipitous sides increasing in height towards its western extremity, which is occupied by a ruined fort, Dun Taimh. Built on a prominent position it commands one of the finest views in the Isle of Skye. In the background is the rugged range of the Cuillins; in front lies Loch Bracadale, studded with islets, with the flat tops of Macleod's Tables rising behind, and in the farther distance the Minch, beyond which appear the Outer Hebrides. The fort is defended by a curved wall built across the ridge and returning a distance of nearly 40 yards along the southern flank, which though precipitous is not quite inaccessible. There is no rampart on the northern flank, as the cliff rises sheer. Across the ridge in front of the main wall is an outer wall erected about 24 feet 6 inches distant from it at the centre, the ends of which recurve to meet the inner defence on the edge of the cliff. Both walls are much dilapidated. The inner wall shows small portions of both faces in position; it is 11 feet 6 inches in width at the entrance placed in the centre of the ridge, and at most shows a height of 6 feet of displaced stones. The outer wall is reduced to the foundation course, and at one place, where the two faces remain *in situ*, it measures 5 feet in thickness. The entrance has gone straight through both defences, and where it pierces the inner wall it measures 6 feet 2 inches in width. Along the major axis which runs about west-north-west and east-south-east the fort measures internally over 132 feet, while it is some 76 feet across the widest part.

Within the dun is a large cairn erected to commemorate the jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1887.

Skye xxxiii. 18 May 1915.

489. **Dun Mor, Struanmore.**—Overlooking and some 500 yards north of Dun Beag (No. 479), at an elevation of over 300 feet above sea-level, is a plateau rising about 50 feet above the surrounding moorland, with precipitous rocky sides for the greater part of its circumference, except on the north-east, from which direction it is approached by a slight ridge rising in a steep gradient. The summit

of the hill is occupied by the ruins of Dun Mor, which is quadrilateral in shape, measuring internally about 175 feet from north-west to south-east, and 140 feet from north-east to south-west. The enceinte has been surrounded by a stone wall which, though almost obliterated, seems to have been 8 feet in thickness on the north, west and south where least artificial defence was necessary, but on the vulnerable



FIG. 208.—Dun Mor (No. 489).

north-east, where the tumbled remains are spread over a width of 25 or 30 feet, it appears to have been 13 or 14 feet in thickness and rises from 4 to 5 feet above the interior. The main entrance is an opening 6 feet 4 inches in width and 13 feet in length near the northern end, and on the south-east a pathway leads up the slope to what may have been a second but smaller entrance. Abutting on the inside of the wall in the eastern angle is a large hut circle, hollow and damp in the interior, measuring some 30 to 37 feet in diameter, inside walls 6 feet in thickness. At a distance of some 35 to 40 feet from, and 10 to 15 feet lower than, the north-eastern wall there has been an outer wall of stone, which, though much destroyed, shows parts in position, and towards the southern end, which returns towards the main wall, it is 5 to 8 feet in thickness. The entrance

to the annexe thus formed is obscure. Inside this return between the outer and inner walls, where there is a flat shelf on the slope, are two hut circles lying 3 feet apart, one circular measuring 7 feet in diameter and the other oval, with axes 19 feet and 13 feet internally, with a wall about 3 feet 9 inches thick rising 6 inches above the turf and impinging on the outer defence.

In the neighbourhood of the dun are numerous ruined buildings, enclosures and boundary walls apparently of much later date than the original structure, and probably built of stones removed from the rampart.

Skye xxviii. 11 June 1921.

490. Promontory Fort, Ullinish.—Some $\frac{5}{8}$ mile west-south-west of Ullinish Lodge is an elevated promontory with precipitous rocky sides rising about 40 feet above the sea-shore and about 20 feet above the land in the rear. The peninsula has been defended by a stone wall, of which very scanty fragments are left, built across the landward end of the peninsula, the ends of the wall giving on to the cliff on either side. It has been about 6 feet thick, and while at the central and highest part it crosses the plateau about 20 feet behind the edge of a rocky bluff, at the lower parts, which are more accessible, it is built on the edge of an escarpment.

Skye xxxiii (unnoted). 18 May 1915.

CAIRNS: HUT CIRCLE.

491. Cairn, Loch na h-Airde, Loch Brittle.—Some 50 yards north of Loch na h-Airde, a lochan lying about 500 yards east of Rudh an Dunain, on the southern side of the mouth of Loch Brittle, at an elevation of some 50 feet above sea-level, is a denuded cairn of stones. The southern half has been considerably reduced in height, but to the north of the centre it still stands 11 feet high. It is now oval on plan, measuring some 76 feet from north to south, and 66 feet from east to west. On the east side are three displaced slabs set on edge, about 3 feet in length, and over 2 feet in height, while a fourth is seen near the western edge of the cairn.

Skye xlix (unnoted). 17 May 1915.

492. Cairn, Chambered (?), Loch Eynort.—On a small plateau on the steep south-western slope of Coille Grula, about 1 mile east-north-east of Kraiknish and about 200 yards from the eastern shore of Loch Eynort, at an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level, are the remains of a cairn. It is circular and now measures some 27 feet in diameter and 4 feet in height. The cairn seems to have been reduced in size, as the cover stone of a central chamber has been laid bare. This slab of irregular shape measures 5 feet 6 inches in length, 3 feet in breadth, and 1 foot in thickness. The interior of the chamber beneath is exposed by a gap in the building under the north side of the cover and is seen to be circular, measuring about 4 feet in diameter above the debris with which it is more than half full. The wall of the chamber is formed of drystone building, no upright slabs being noticeable, and it is of beehive shape. There is no trace of an entrance passage.

Skye xliii (unnoted). 15 May 1915.

493. Chambered Cairn (denuded), Ullinish Lodge.—Some 200 yards north-north-west of



FIG. 209.—Chambered Cairn, Ullinish Lodge (No. 493).

Ullinish Lodge, on a slight ridge dominated by a rocky plateau some 50 yards to the south-east, at an elevation of about 100 feet above

sea-level, is a much despoiled chambered cairn. Near the centre of the cairn, which has probably been circular with a diameter of about 76 feet and which is now reduced to a height of 5 feet, are eight slabs of considerable size and one small stone set on end, all that remains of the burial chamber. The stones vary from 1 to 3 feet 6 inches in height, from 1 foot 4 inches to 4 feet 6 inches in length, and from 1 foot to 3 feet in thickness, and enclose a sub-oval space measuring 17 feet from west-north-west to east-south-east and 9 feet across. A large block 3 feet 3 inches by 3 feet by 2 feet 2 inches high lies inside the chamber. One of the upright blocks is placed at right angles to the main axis of the chamber at the eastern end, and possibly may have formed the right side of the portal into the chamber. The entrance passage is not distinguishable. (Fig. 238.)

Skye xxviii (unnoted). 11 June 1921.

494. Hut Circle, Dun Beag, Struanmore.—On a terrace on the hillside about 120 yards south of Dun Beag (No. 479), about 300 feet above sea-level, is a hut circle composed of blocks of stone, from 9 inches to 1 foot 6 inches in height, and measuring 15 feet in diameter internally.

Skye xxviii (unnoted). September 1915.

EARTH-HOUSES.

495. Earth-house, Glen Bracadale.—In Glen Bracadale, about $\frac{7}{8}$ mile west-south-west of Loch Duagrich, at an elevation of 300 feet above sea-level, on the right bank of the Glen Bracadale Burn, is a ruined earth-house. This building is situated on a mound of earth and stone apparently partially artificial, and the entrance seems to have been about 6 feet from the bank of the stream. The earth-house has the form of a narrow gallery with drystone walls and lintelled roof about 9 inches under the surface, which runs into the mound in a direction very slightly to the west of north and then curves round regularly to the north-west. The first 6 feet of the walls seem to have been quite destroyed, but for some 26 feet beyond they can be traced, the space between being filled with fallen debris. At two places, some 16 feet and 21 feet 6 inches from where the walls begin, several lintels remain, covering a length of

3 feet and 4 feet 7 inches respectively. The hollow can be traced farther until it dies away in a circular stony mound the centre of which lies some 15 feet from the last lintel. Under one of the lintels the gallery shows a width of 2 feet 6 inches. There seems to have been a rise of about 3 feet in the length of the earth-house.

Skye xxviii (unnoted). 26 May 1915.

496. Earth-house, Knock Ullinish.—On rough, rocky moorland about 400 yards west of the junction where the road to Ullinish Lodge branches off from the Dunvegan and Struanmore Road, about 20 feet from the base of the rocky escarpment on the east side of the northern extremity of Knock Ullinish, at an elevation of over 100 feet above sea-level, is a partly destroyed earth-house. The surviving portion consists of a straight narrow passage running roughly from north-east to south-west, the side walls formed of good drystone building and the roof of stone lintels covered by about 1 foot of soil. The gallery measures 18 feet in length, and, where entered at the south-west end, 4 feet in height and 2 feet 7 inches in width, broadening to 3 feet about 6 feet farther in. The walls converge inward slightly towards the top. There are indications that the southern continuation has taken a distinct curve towards the south, terminating in a slope in the ground about 20 feet from the present entrance. The inner end of the structure has possibly taken the form of an oval or circular chamber, as there is a deep hollow surrounded by displaced stones at the northern end of the passage. This portion is obscure, and there are numerous remains of old houses and enclosures adjoining it.

Skye xxviii. 5 May 1915.

497. Earth-house, Tungadal.—About 150 yards east of Loch Duagrich and about 600 yards north-east of the shepherd's house at Tungadal, on a shelf near the base of a steep slope on the north-east shoulder of Ben Duagrich, at an elevation of some 350 feet above sea-level, is an earth-house, which though partially destroyed still shows a long straight gallery of drystone building, roofed with long lintel stones under about 9 inches of soil, in a good state of preservation. Access to the building is at present obtained through a break in the roof



FIG. 210—Dun Borerraig (No. 505): from East.



FIG. 211—Dun Colbost (No. 506).



FIG. 212—Walling, Dun Skudiburgh (No. 542).

and wall at the north-east. The chamber runs towards the south-west, and can be traversed for a distance of 20 feet, where there is a lintel placed 1 foot lower than the others. As there is a large accumulation of soil at this place it is impossible to ascertain the character of the structure beyond. At the broken opening the earth-house is some 2 feet 8 inches wide, about 9 feet in it widens to 2 feet 10 inches, then contracts to a width of 2 feet at a distance of 18 feet. At this point the wall on the left has a break 1 foot deep, making the passage about 3 feet wide. By the time the low lintel is reached, 2 feet farther on, it contracts to a width of 2 feet 6 inches. Some 2 feet 2 inches from the opening on the floor level in the south-eastern wall is a recess at least 2 feet 6 inches in height, 1 foot 6 inches in breadth, and 2 feet deep; after an interval of 2 feet, where the divisional stone projects about 6 inches out from the line of the wall, is a very narrow recess extending from the roof to the floor, 6 inches in width and 2 feet in depth. The maximum height of the chamber is about 3 feet 6 inches. The walls are well built, and on the south side there are several large slabs set on end. At the north-eastern end of the gallery there are indications in a stony hollow that it had continued in a curve towards the north and back towards the west, and perhaps was connected with two oval cells placed end to end in a line roughly parallel with the gallery. The indications of these oval chambers are very indefinite, and their existence can only be verified by excavation; they appear as stony hollows measuring some 12 feet and 9 feet in length and about 7 feet and 6 feet in breadth respectively.

This earth-house is marked "Dun" on the O.S. map.

Skye xxix. 26 May 1915.

SYMBOL STONE.

498. **Symbol Stone, Fiskavaig Bay.**—Attention was drawn by Mr Murphy, Excise Officer, Carbost, to a symbol stone lying on the sea-

shore at Fiskavaig Bay, and the slab has now been acquired by the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland. It is incised on one face with the spectacle and floriated zig-zag rod and the crescent and floriated V-shaped rod symbols. The slab measures 3 feet in length and varies in breadth and thickness from 16 inches and 8 inches respectively at the bottom to 20 inches and 10½ inches at the top. Cf. *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. LXI.

Skye xxxiii (unnoted).

PARISH OF DUIRINISH.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

499. **Annait.**—The enclosure known as Annait lies about 2¼ miles north-east of Dunvegan Castle, and barely 1 mile north by west of the Fairy Bridge on the Portree and Dunvegan road, in the sharp angle formed by the confluence of Bay River and a small affluent on the left bank about a mile from its mouth. It takes the form of a long narrow triangle, the sides of which rise from 20 to 50 feet above the bed of both streams in steep slopes and almost inaccessible rocky scarps. The enclosure measures fully 200 feet in length and 165 feet across the base, where it is cut off from gradually rising moorland to the south by a wide natural hollow about 12 feet deep. The ruins of a stone wall standing to a height of 3 feet at most and showing several courses of drystone building, crown the northern edge of the hollow, and this wall has been continued along the eastern side on the edge of the bank rising from the river. On the western boundary there remains no trace of a wall or parapet, but this side is much more difficult of access. There is a well defined entrance through the basal wall on the south near its western end, measuring some 6 feet 6 inches in width, the wall on the eastern side showing a thickness of 18 feet. Within the thickness of the wall between the entrance and its eastern end are indications of four chambers, possibly the ruins of domed cells. These are oval in shape, except the most easterly example, which is circular on plan and is the best defined of the group. To the north of the last chamber are a few scattered stones with five blocks set on edge

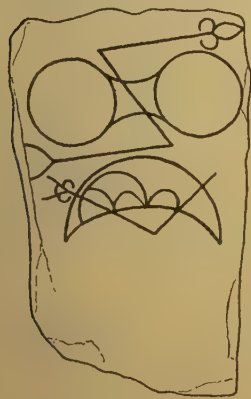


FIG. 213.—Symbol Stone, Fiskavaig Bay (No. 498).

forming the northern arc of a circular building. On the top and in the centre of this portion of

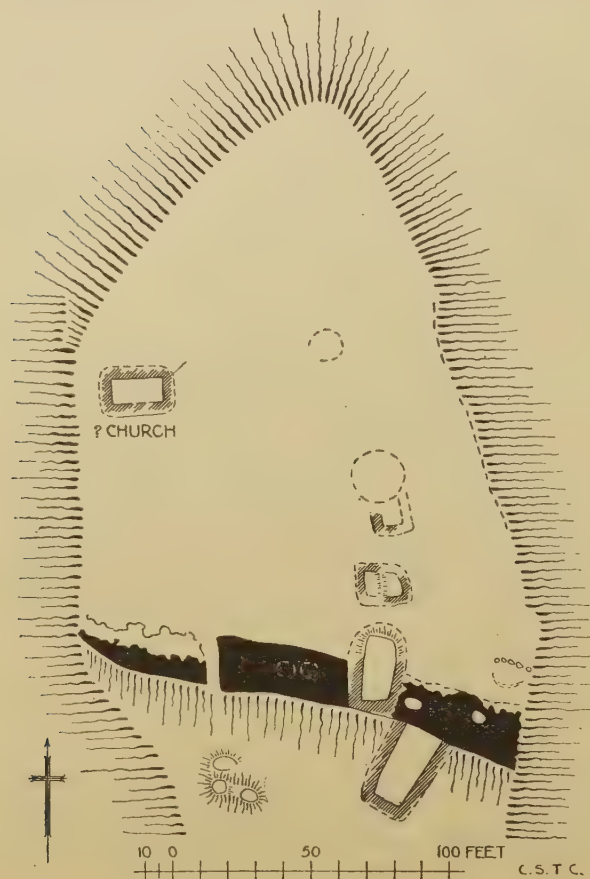


FIG. 214.—Annait (No. 499).

the wall are the foundations, about 5 feet thick, of a later rectangular building 23 feet 6 inches long and 11 feet 6 inches wide internally, lying north and south with the northern end projecting into the enclosure. To the north and in line with this building are the stone foundations, about 3 feet thick, of two smaller structures, the southern of which has apparently been divided into two compartments. Beyond these again are indications of two hut circles. Near the western edge of the enclosure and about 75 feet north of the main wall is an oblong stone foundation, possibly a church, orientated east and west and measuring 18 feet in length and 8 feet in breadth internally. The thickness of the wall is clearly defined in the western end, and measures 4 feet at the foundation.

In the hollow and 25 feet outside the gateway

are the stone foundations of three impinging oval cells placed in an L-shaped position, and foundations of another secondary building, measuring 29 feet long and 13 feet 6 inches wide internally, with walls 4 feet 6 inches thick, projecting south-westerly from the outer face of the main wall near its eastern end.

Bodies of unchristened children were buried within this enclosure down to twenty-five years ago.

Skye xv. 8 June 1921.

500. Old Parish Church, Dunvegan.—On high ground overlooking the clachan of Dunvegan, at the head of the loch, is the ruin of the old Post-Reformation Parish Church, an inornate rubble-built structure originally oblong on plan, to which in the 18th century a north burial aisle was added. The voids have freestone dressings, and the lintel of the north door is inscribed I ML 1694. The church has been galleried and the west gable is surmounted by the remains of a belfry. A burial enclosure against this gable has a good Renaissance doorway and balustrade dated 1735.

The churchyard is still known as Kilmuir, as is also the adjoining township, preserving the ancient dedication, St Mary.

CARVED SLABS.—In the kirkyard are three grave slabs with a claymore and foliaceous designs carved on them. The best preserved stone is 6 feet 5 inches long by 20 inches wide at the top, tapering to 16½ inches at the foot. The edge of the stone is chamfered, and about 2 inches from the edge a shallow hollow channel about 1 inch wide is cut round the slab. Within

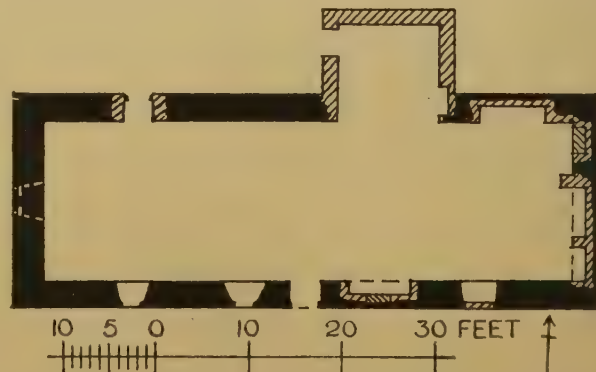


FIG. 215.—Old Parish Church, Dunvegan (No. 500).

this hollow is a moulding, from which the twigs of the foliaceous design spring towards the interior. In the centre of the panel is a two-handed sword with depressed quillons and fan-shaped pommel divided into five sections, the central digit being prolonged into a spike. On the dexter side of the blade the foliage consists of drooping leaves springing from the border, but on both sides of the hilt and on the sinister side of the blade the leaves have five sharp points like holly. The foliage is not continued to the base of this side, but a portion opposite the point of the sword seems unornamented. (Fig. 247.)

The second slab is more weathered and broken at the foot. It measures 5 feet 7 inches in length and 20½ inches in breadth at the top. Like the previous slab the sides converge slightly towards the foot. Within a panel bordered by a flat raised moulding is a claymore with depressed quillons and fan-shaped pointed pommel. The ornamentation on the dexter side is obliterated, but on the sinister side halfway between the sword and the edge of the panel is a straight moulding with lozenges at regular intervals, the lozenges terminating in a

knob at the outer and inner points. On either side of this design is an arrangement of leaves almost obliterated.

The third slab is 6 feet 4 inches long, 21 inches broad at the top and 16½ inches at the foot. The design is almost worn off, but part of the blade of the claymore is discernible.

There is a number of interesting "through" stones in the graveyard dating from the end of the 17th and beginning of 18th centuries.

COMMUNION CUPS.—Two handsome communion cups of English manufacture, with the hall mark of 1612-13, and bearing the letters SRM over the Macleod

arms, have been fully described in the *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. XX., pp. 398-446.

Skye xxi. 10 May 1915; 8 Sept. 1922.

501.—Carved Slab, Congan's Chapel, Glasvin, Glen Dale.—In Kilchoan burying ground at Glasvin, Glen Dale, which is said to contain the site of St Congan's church, is a sculptured slab set upside down as a headstone to a modern grave. It measures 4 feet 8 inches in height above ground and about 16 inches are buried; it is 17½ inches in breadth and about 3 inches in thickness, the top, which was the original lower end, terminating in an obtuse angle. It has been bordered by a slight moulding, 1 inch broad about 1½ inches from the edge of the stone. The upper part of the panel contained within this moulding, which is at present obscured, bears a man seated playing the harp; the lower part is occupied by a claymore or hand-and-half sword with depressed quillons and a fan-shaped pommel terminating in a spike. The stone is much weathered, but on the dexter side of the blade and hilt a running foliaceous design can be traced, while the sinister side of the weapon is divided into four panels, one opposite the hilt and three opposite the blade, three of which bear designs. The higher panel, above the quillon, contains the front view of a mitred ecclesiastic, apparently holding a crozier in his right hand; a long stemmed chalice occupies the panel immediately below the quillon, and the lower panel is filled with what seems to be a foliaceous scroll, while the central compartment is devoid of ornament or perhaps weathered away. (Fig. 244.)

Every trace of the ancient church has disappeared, but near the centre of the burying ground an old bourtree bush of large dimensions is said to have sprung from seeds contained in the pockets of the son of a Norwegian chief who was buried here. Some years ago a crofter cut some twigs from the tree and carried them to his house. His slumbers were disturbed that night by the appearance of the spirit of the Viking, which protested so strongly against this act of desecration that the crofter carried the branches back next day.

The font described in the *Proceedings*¹ was not seen.

¹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. XLIV., p. 382. : Skye xx. 7 May 1915.



FIG. 216.—Communion Cup, Duirinish (No. 500).

502. Trumpan Church, Vaternish.—About a quarter of a mile north of Ardmere Bay, and fully 200 feet above sea-level, is Trumpan Church, now ruinous. Orientated and oblong on plan, it measures externally 49 feet 9 inches by 22 feet 10 inches. The north wall, 4 feet 5 inches in thickness and standing to a height of about 9 feet, contains at its west end a small rough arched doorway 2 feet 8 inches wide on the outside checked and splayed inwardly, and at its east end a small window, 7 inches wide and splayed inwardly to 5 feet. A similar window is in the centre of the east gable, which is 2 feet 9 inches in thickness. There is no opening in the west gable, now much decayed, and only traces of foundations of the south wall remain. The church is built of rough rubble.

Lying amongst the ruins is a broken stone basin about 1 foot 2 inches at its widest part and 8 inches thick, having a circular cavity of 9½ inches in diameter and 6 inches deep.

CARVED SLABS.—In the churchyard at Trumpan are two late mediæval grave slabs. The first, of dark schist, is 6 feet 4 inches in length, 17½ inches in breadth at the top, and 14½ inches at the bottom. In a sunk panel under an arabesque canopy is the figure of a bareheaded and possibly tonsured cleric dressed in chasuble and stole, carved in low relief. The hands are placed in front of the breast in the attitude of prayer. The apex of the canopy terminates in a foliaceous design. In the upper part of the stone, within a circle, is an interlaced foliaceous cross, and in the lower part is a long stemmed chalice. A broad flat moulding 1½ inches broad is cut round the edge of the stone. (Fig. 248.)

The second grave stone, measuring 6 feet in length and from 18 to 17 inches in breadth, is pretty much worn. Round the edge is a row of low round bosses between two flat mouldings. In the upper part of the stone is a floriated cross of eight rays, below which is a claymore with straight quillons and a round pommel, terminating in a blunt spike. The ends of the quillons are lozenge-shaped. On either side of the hilt is an animal, from whose tail springs a foliaceous design, which is carried alongside the blade of the sword.

The "PRIEST'S STONE" is a rough four-sided monolith standing in the burying ground and measuring 4 feet in height and 6 feet

3 inches in girth. Near the top is a small natural cavity.

FONT.—A rough, shapeless hollowed stone is said to be a font. It measures 16 inches long by 13 inches broad by 7 inches thick, and is somewhat triangular with rounded angles. A cavity 9 inches in diameter at the lip and 6 inches in depth is hollowed out on the top towards one side. It is narrower in the bottom than the usual hollow in a knocking-stone.

Skye ix. 21 May 1915; 13 June 1921.

503. Chapel, Balmore.—On the summit of a small hill to the south of the township of Balmore, about 200 yards north-east of Dun Neill (No. 522), at an elevation of nearly 100 feet above sea-level, is the site of a chapel and burying ground. Two rectangular foundations of buildings can be traced lying almost parallel to each other about 4 feet apart. The smaller building measures 31 feet in length and 18 feet in breadth externally, and is orientated slightly south of east and north of west (112½° mag.), while the larger structure, which measures externally 54 feet by 29 feet, is orientated slightly more to the south of east and north of west (125° mag.).

Skye xxvii. 13 May 1915.

CASTLE.

504. Dunvegan Castle.—Dunvegan Castle, the seat of McLeod of Dunvegan, is the most considerable of the historic structures in Skye, and is singular in possessing details of architectural merit. It occupies the summit of a rock in a sheltered and almost landlocked bay on the eastern shore of Loch Dunvegan, that rises to a height of from 20 to 25 feet, is enclosed by sea on three sides, and is separated from high ground on the east or landward side by a gully 16 yards wide and 15 feet deep in places, which is mainly natural. As the rock can be scaled at several points, the *terre plein* is defended by a wall returning round the perimeter, which in time has come to be incorporated in buildings to north, south and east. From Grose's view of the castle, published in 1790, before the modern alterations and additions were made, it is apparent that the nucleus of the whole is the large tower at the north-east



FIG. 217—From the West, showing Tower and Courtyard.



FIG. 218—From the East, showing "Fairy Tower" and 16th-century House.

DUNVEGAN CASTLE (No. 504).

To face p. 152.



FIG. 219—Stone Figure



FIG. 220—Sculptured Panel above entrance to castle.

DETAILS FROM DUNVEGAN CASTLE (No. 504).

To face p. 152.

angle which dates in or about the 15th century and formed a dwelling complete in itself. This was slightly altered in the 16th century, and in the same century increased accommodation was provided by building the new house with the "Fairy Tower" between the southern angle and the 15th-century tower; some part of this addition was renewed and embellished in 1686. In or towards the 18th century the

of steps; when the porch and vestibule were added the gully was bridged and the west entrance went out of use.

In the 15th century the castle comprised a barmkin about a quarter of an acre in extent, irregularly shaped, with the house tucked away in the north-east angle. The barmkin wall probably was surmounted by a roundway, for there are corbels on the south-east angle of



FIG. 221.—Dunvegan Castle (No. 504).

old tower was ruinous and disused, and was replaced by a wing on the west of the 16th-century house. Within relatively modern times the old tower was restored and modernised, and was linked up to the 16th-century house by an addition containing a vestibule and porch; the 16th-century house was widened and heightened, and the castle as a whole was finished in the then fashionable battlemented "baronial" style. The access was originally only from the west, but this was subsequently supplemented by a side gate on the east, reached from the bed of the gully by a flight

the "Fairy Tower," which cannot be explained if they were not for the purpose of supporting a parapet. The barmkin entrance, set on the western side, was fairly wide, and had an arched head, but in the 16th century it was constricted by inserting moulded jambs and lintel, the latter enriched with a ribbon and baton moulding. The entrance was defended by two swinging gates with an intermediate rising gate, which can hardly be dignified as a portcullis. Past the gates the access leads straight up to the barmkin level and passes on the south the draw well, but just within the

innermost gate a narrow branch led up to the tower entrance. (Fig. 217.)

The tower on plan comprises an oblong main block $48\frac{1}{4}$ by 35 feet, with a jamb or wing 11 by $14\frac{3}{4}$ feet unusually placed, for it projects from a gable. The entrance seems to have been at first floor level in the north-west, re-entering angle on the site of the door now opening between the drawing room and billiard room; some distance above this is a machicolation. Main block and wing were both four storeys in height, but the wing has been heightened in the last alterations. The masonry is rubble harled built of stone excavated on or near the site, but the dressings are of imported freestone. Those inserted in the 16th century are distinguished by being delicately moulded. The basement floor is vaulted with a barrel vault and comprises a cellarage, which became the kitchen in the 16th century. At the eastern end a mural staircase descends and gives access from the Hall, which occupied the first floor. The lower storey of the wing is a pit or prison originally reached from a hatch in its vault, but subsequently entered from a small 16th-century door in the east wall. The pit ventilated into the mural staircase. The Hall, which has been modernised as the drawing room, measures $30\frac{3}{4}$ by $20\frac{3}{4}$ feet. The windows in the lateral walls are modern. The only original feature is a small mural chamber at the southern angle. The staircase, which must have risen from this floor to the roof, is not apparent, but it is conjectured that it lay in the west wall, for in that wall externally is seen a small window which cannot otherwise be accounted for. Within the wing at the level of the Hall is a small chamber with a vaulted roof, lit from north and east by narrow slits; above this is a second chamber with a garderobe in the gable and narrow slits in the lateral walls. The two floors in the main block above the Hall are quite modernised.

The 16th-century house comprises the graceful little "Fairy Tower," a four-storey structure at the south-east angle, and the four-storeyed wing extending northwards from that tower (Fig. 218). Both these portions are modernised internally, but the tower still retains its crenellated parapet and walk, while the wing has a good Renaissance balustrade, added in 1664. Preserved in the wine

cellar are some details removed from the wing during the latest alterations: (a) is a panel with a lengthy inscription in Latin, now very weather-worn and almost illegible, but apparently to the effect that John McLeod (Iain Breac) and Flora McDonald, his wife, restored the wing in 1686; (b) a dormer pediment inscribed F MD beneath a thistle slip; (c) a second pediment bearing a lion rampant. On the upper part of the modern porch is a long armorial panel c. 17th century, stated to have been removed from another building. The central shield, supported by lions, griffins rampant regardant, holding swords and surmounted by a crown and label, is parted per pale and charged *dexter* a castle at fess between the three legs of Man in chief and a bull's head cabossed at base, and *sinister* a galley beneath a lion rampant and a right hand grasping a cross-crosslet. The label is upheld by angels. The panel is otherwise filled with such decorative motifs as foliage, two banners opposed, animals lying and standing, and an object resembling a female figure on a helm. The impaled arms are those of Iain Breac, chief from 1664 to 1693, and his wife, Flora Macdonald of Sleat. (Fig. 220.)

In the courtyard are the symbol stone described in Article No. 528 and a very interesting female figure in 17th-century costume which apparently bore a sundial (Fig. 219). A very similar figure, which came from North Barr, Ayrshire, is now at Lennoxlove, East Lothian (*Inventory of Monuments, East Lothian*, No. 70)

Skye xxi. 8 September 1922.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(BROCHS.)

505. Dun Borerraig, Borerraig.—About $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-east of the township of Borerraig on the west side of Loch Dunvegan is a bold headland rising in very steep scarps and rocky bluffs from the shore of the loch to a height of over 100 feet above sea-level. Some 25 yards from the edge of the bluff is a flat-topped rock rising from 20 to 30 feet above the surroundings, the summit of which is accessible only by a rocky slope on the south. This rock is occupied by a broch, Dun Borerraig, which even in its ruined condition is a prominent landmark

from the north and south. It approaches to within 3 feet of the edge of the rock on the north side, but towards the east, south and west there intervenes an irregular enclosure with the remains of its boundary wall, 4 feet in width and in places still standing to a height of 3 feet or more on the outside, built round the edge of the cliff. The broch is circular, measuring 35 feet in diameter internally with a wall vary-

of 4 feet 6 inches above the scarcement. The entrance is on the west, and though obscured and much destroyed seems to be about 2 feet 10 inches in width at the outside, seemingly widening without checks to 3 feet 4 inches inside. Some 3 feet 6 inches to the south of the entrance passage there is a circular and now roofless chamber in the thickness of the wall, that measures about 5 feet in diameter above

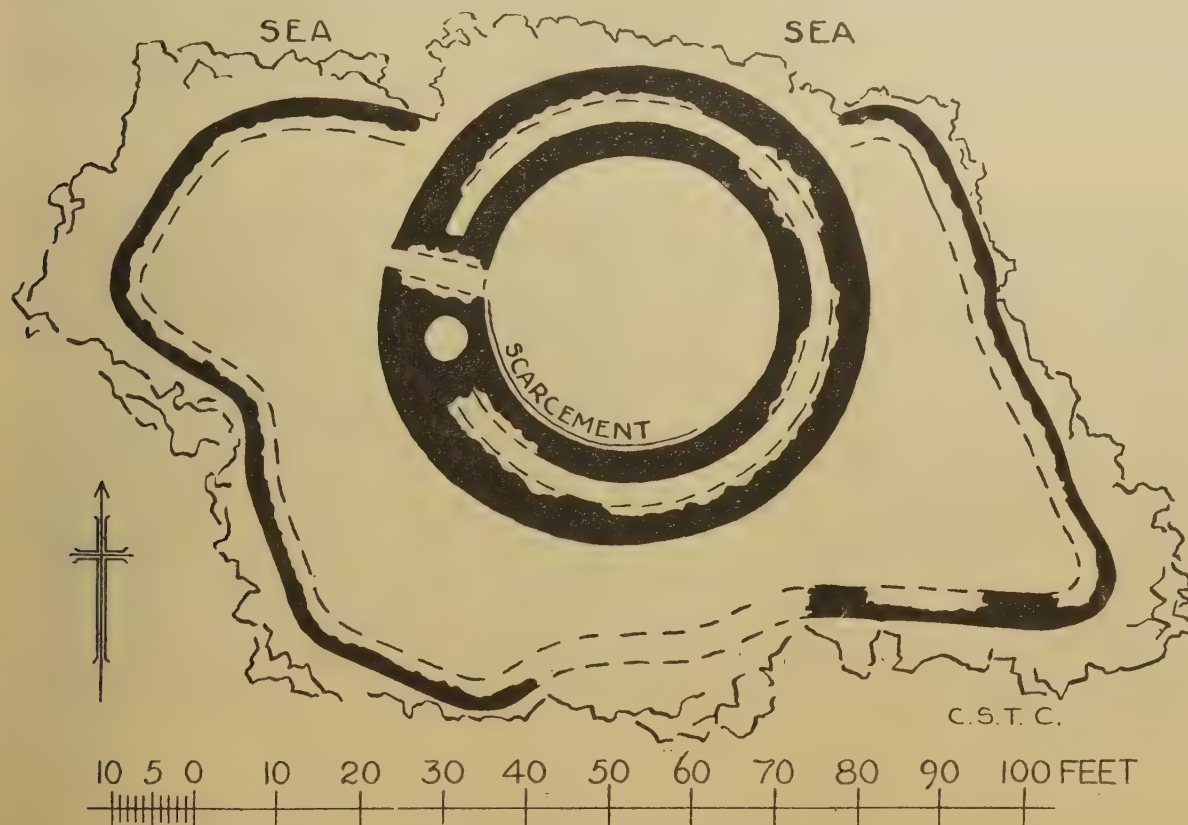


FIG. 222.—Dun Boreraig (No. 505).

ing from 10 feet 4 inches to 11 feet 3 inches in thickness in general, but to 13 feet over a cell at entrance. The outer face of the wall varies in height from 2 feet on the north to 8 and 9 feet on the south and south-east, a considerable part at the two last places being hidden by fallen stones. Most of the interior is filled, to a general depth of 4 or 5 feet, with stones, but on the eastern side the debris is much deeper. Part of a scarcement, about 8 inches wide and about 7 feet above entrance level, is visible on the south-western arc of the inner wall, where the building still shows a height

the debris inside, and in height would reach to about the level of the scarcement. Traces of a gallery in the wall, apparently at a higher level than the circular cell, can be traced almost round the whole circuit of the building, but only a small section indicates its width, which averages 2 feet 8 inches with its outer wall 4 feet 3 inches thick, and the inner wall about 3 feet 9 inches. (Fig. 210.)

The entrance through the outer line of defence seems to have been over a sloping rock towards the south, and on this rock surface is a circular cup-like hollow 8½ inches in diameter and 3½

inches deep. It has every appearance of being artificial, but adjoining it is an irregular depression on the rock with somewhat similar markings which seem natural.

Skve xiv. 10 June 1921.

506. **Dun Colbost, Colbost.**—On the hillside rising from the western shore of Loch Dunvegan above the township of Colbost, at an elevation of about 320 feet above sea-level and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distant from the sea-shore, is a small

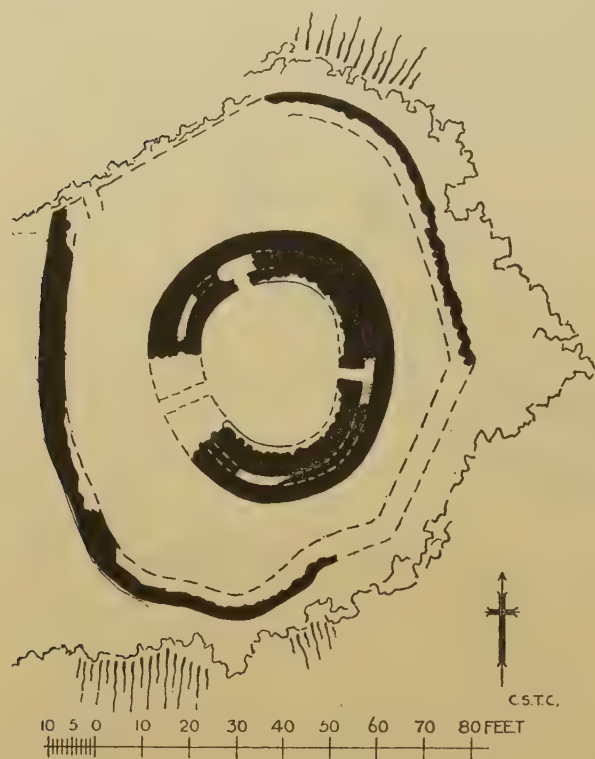


FIG. 223.—Dun Colbost (No. 506).

plateau running east and west, and rising from 20 to 30 feet above the surrounding ground, which at this part is fairly level. The edge of the plateau is rocky and in places these rocks rise perpendicularly from 10 to 20 feet (Fig. 211). The plateau is occupied by Dun Colbost, a broch, now in a ruinous condition, much of the spoliaion having taken place in recent years. The broch measures 52 feet from east to west and 57 feet from north to south on the axes externally; the wall, built of large blocks of stone laid in courses and having the usual batter, varies from about 11 to 12 feet in thickness. The inside wall is

entirely obscured by the tumbled stones with which the interior is encumbered except for a short section on the west. The outer face of the wall can be traced all round, though much is hidden under fallen stones. On the east it is about 9 feet high, on the south 4 feet, on the west 6 feet, and on the north 7 feet. The entrance cannot be distinguished, but was probably on the west where the wall is broken. On the northern arc of the wall the western end of a ruined oval chamber is noticeable, the width being 3 feet 10 inches, its inner wall 3 feet 3 inches and its outer 4 feet 2 inches thick. On the east an opening 2 feet 10 inches wide and 5 feet 6 inches long has led from the interior into a gallery, 2 feet 3 inches wide, with outer wall 3 feet 9 inches thick. On entering, a short length of the gallery is on the left or north, and the main part is to the right. Though no steps are visible this has probably been the staircase, ascending to a higher level and apparently continuing as a gallery round the broch, as indicated from parts observed in the southern and north-western arcs, where it measures 2 feet and 1 foot 7 inches wide respectively.

The broch has been provided with an outer line of defence in the shape of a stone wall built near the rocky edge of the plateau and across the ridge at distances varying from 10 feet on the south-east to 27 feet on the north from the main building. This wall is best preserved where it crosses the ridge, and here it shows a thickness of about 6 feet and a height of 3 feet in places. The plateau extends about 20 yards to the west beyond the wall. The outer entrance to the broch seems to have been by a slanting roadway up a break in the rocky scarp of the plateau on the north-west.

Skve xxi. 10 June 1921.

507. **Dun Osdale.**—On the south-west side of the road from Dunvegan to Glendale, some 100 yards south-east from the junction of the road to Uiginish Lodge, at an elevation of about 130 feet above sea-level, is Dun Osdale, a ruined broch, which occupies the north-western extremity of a short ridge with a rocky escarpment some 40 feet in height along its north-eastern flank and some 20 feet in height at its north-western extremity; to the south-west a slight hollow intervenes be-



FIG. 227—Entrance to Guard-chamber

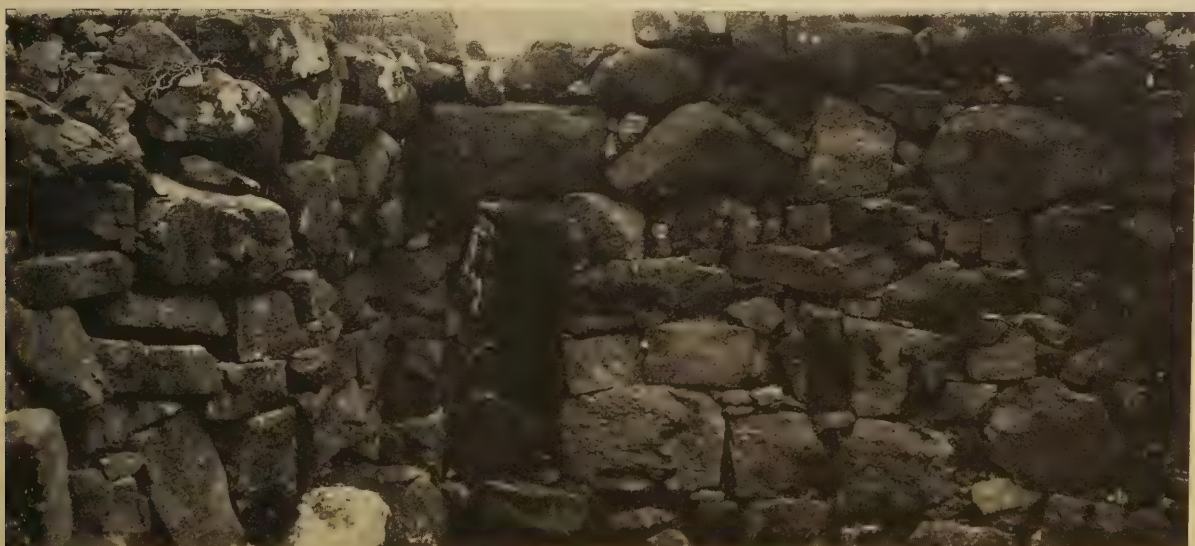


FIG. 228—Second Entrance to Broch.



FIG. 229—General View:
DUN FIADHAIRT (No. 508).

tween it and the hill Dun Chlach, and to the south-east the ground is almost level.



FIG. 224.—Dun Osdale (No. 507).

3 feet in height. The stones are of considerable size and laid in regular courses. In the interior a mass of tumbled stone obscures the most of the inner face of the wall, but on the south and north-west it stands about 8 feet above the debris. The broch is circular with an internal diameter of 35 feet to 36 feet 6 inches, and the wall thickens from 10 feet on the north to 13 feet 7 inches on the south. The entrance, which is on the east, is badly broken down, but near the inside has a width of 3 feet 2 inches, and appears to have been 2 feet 10 inches on the outside. It has run straight through the wall without checks. In the thickness of the wall to the south of the entrance is an oval chamber measuring 10 feet long by 4 feet 9 inches broad above the debris with which it is half filled. The roof has fallen in, but the internal corbelling of the walls is well displayed. The fallen stones no doubt still cover the entrance, which has probably been from the interior. Within the western arc of the wall, nearly opposite the main doorway, is another oval cell 12 feet in length and 4 feet 6 inches in breadth over debris, with a doorway 2 feet 9 inches wide; its outer and inner walls are 5 feet 9 inches and 2 feet 6 inches respectively. The roof of this chamber has also collapsed, but from the masonry which remains in position it must have been over 6 feet in height. Immediately to the west of the cell near the entrance are exposed the left jamb of a door and a short length of a gallery 3 feet 6 inches wide in the thickness of the southern wall, which prob-

ably contained the stair, as traces of a gallery at a higher level than the oval chambers are seen here, the inner wall being about 3 feet and the outer 8 feet thick. Parts of a scarcement 9 inches wide can be detected on the north-western and south-eastern arcs.

Skye xxi. 10 June 1921.

508. Dun, Fiadhairt (Iardhard), Dunvegan.—On the peninsula of Fiadhairt, about $1\frac{3}{8}$ miles north-west of Dunvegan Castle, are the ruins of a broch, excavated by Countess Latour.¹ It occupies the summit of a rocky knoll rising from some 12 to 25 feet above the surrounding ground, and stands rather lower than the generality of the rocky heights on the peninsula. It is about 50 feet above sea-level, some 50 yards north-east of a small arm of Loch Dunvegan, called Ob an Duin. (Fig. 229.)

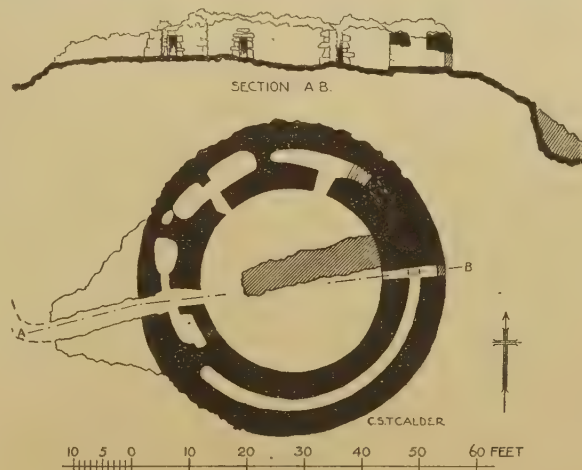


FIG. 225.—Dun, Fiadhairt, Dunvegan (No. 508).

The broch is circular, the internal diameter measuring 31 feet 6 inches, and the wall varies from 10 feet 6 inches to 12 feet in thickness. The outer face of the wall is for the greater part hidden by fallen stones, but, towards the east where it has been uncovered, it shows a height of 4 feet of masonry laid in irregular courses with a slight inward batter; the inner face shows an average height of about 6 feet, and a portion of a scarcement some 6 inches in width and about 6 feet 6 inches from the ground still remains on the left side of the main entrance, which is placed slightly south of west, and is

¹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, XLIX., pp. 57-70

approached by a roadway which curves up the rocky slope of the height, and is flanked on either side by a roughly built wall of later date for a distance of about 16 feet. The entrance is 3 feet wide at the outside and about 2 feet 8 inches on the inside. Some 3 feet inwards is a door check on either side of the passage, and at 1 foot 1 inch nearer the interior on the north side is a doorway 3 feet 2 inches high and 1 foot 8 inches wide, with outer lintel in position, leading into an oval guard-chamber about 7 feet in length and from 3 feet to 4 feet in breadth (Fig. 227); on the south side, 1 foot 6 inches inwards from the check, is a doorway 1 foot 11 inches wide to another cell 6 feet 5 inches long and 4 feet broad with a recess at the south end 2 feet 6 inches high, 2 feet wide, and 1 foot 2 inches deep. The chambers and entrance passage are roofless. The entrance passages to these cells measure 14 inches in length on the south and 2 feet 4 inches on the north. In the interior some 13 feet 6 inches northwards from the entrance a complete doorway, 3 feet 6 inches high, 1 foot 8 inches wide, and 3 feet 10 inches long, leads into a roofless oval chamber, 17 feet long and from 3 feet 3 inches to 4 feet 2 inches wide, which is divided into two opposite the doorway by a buttress-like projection on the inner face 1 foot 7 inches broad and 9 inches deep; about 1 foot 9 inches from the floor in a corner of the southern end is a small recess 13 inches high and 10 inches broad on face, widening to 1 foot 10 inches inside and penetrating about 3 feet into the wall. About 14 feet from the entrance to this cell is another entrance 2 feet 6 inches wide and 3 feet 6 inches long, from which the lintel stones have been removed, leading into a chamber which extends westwards towards the last cell for a distance of 8 feet 10 inches, the breadth being from 3 feet 3 inches to 2 feet 4 inches. The eastern end of this gallery on the right of its doorway contains the beginning of the staircase, of which six steps remain. Almost opposite the main entrance to the broch and 16 feet from the last doorway is an opening (Fig. 228) into a low and well preserved passage to the outside which is broken in the middle by the mouth of a gallery. The inside portion of this passage, on which three lintels remain, measures 4 feet 6 inches in height, 1 foot 7 inches in breadth, and 4 feet

8 inches in length, while the outer, with four lintel stones, measures 4 feet 5 inches in length, 2 feet 11 inches in height, and 1 foot 11 inches in breadth. The gallery to which this doorway gives access is 2 feet wide and extends for a distance of 50 feet around the southern arc of the broch to within 3 feet of the chamber to the south of the main entrance. Immediately to the south of its entrance seven lintels covering a length of 7 feet 6 inches remain in position and farther on there are other two.

Built across the interior of the broch from the north side of the entrance to the long gallery to within 4 feet of the main entrance is a roughly built wall about 5 feet 6 inches thick and of an average height of about 3 feet. It is of late construction, and it is not bonded into the wall of the broch.

A necklace composed of fifty-nine discoid amber beads, and a considerable quantity of shards of hand-made pottery, were discovered.

Skye xxi. 13 June 1921.

509. **Dun Hallin, Hallin, Vaternish.** — On a small plateau on the hill above, and about

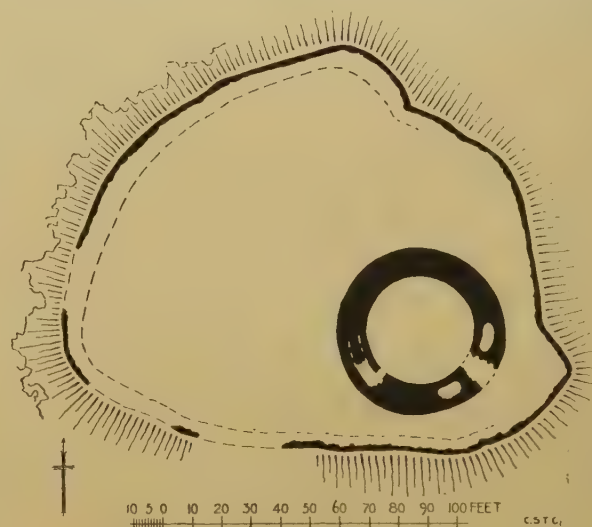


FIG. 226.—Dun Hallin (No. 509).

500 yards north-east of the township of Hallin, at an elevation of some 450 feet above sea-level, is Dun Hallin, a broch much reduced in height. It stands near the summit of a col in the hilly ridge which runs down the Vaternish peninsula, and so not only overlooks Loch Dunvegan, but gives a prospect of Loch Snizort. The broch (Fig. 206) occupies the south-

eastern end of the plateau, and round the edge of the rocky scarp, some 20 feet high, which borders it, are the traces of an outer stone wall forming an outer court, which extends at most from 65 to 85 feet on north-north-west to west from the wall of the main structure, and diminishes to 8 feet or so on the east and south. The wall of the broch is much better preserved than in the great majority of these structures and as usual shows a batter on the outside. On the north and west it shows a height of from 10 feet 6 inches to 12 feet 6 inches of good sound drystone building. At the other parts it is lower, especially on the east, where only one or two courses of building appear above several feet of debris. Inside is a considerable accumulation of rubbish, the wall standing an average height of 4 feet above it. The building is circular with an internal diameter of 36 feet, and the wall is from 9 feet 9 inches to 11 feet thick. The entrance has been on the south-east, but it is too broken down for measurement. On either side of it in the thickness of the wall is an oval cell, the one to the north measuring 9 feet 6 inches in length and 4 feet 9 inches in breadth, while the other, which is more dilapidated, is 9 feet in length above debris. Their entrances are not visible. The gallery in the interior of the wall can be traced on the south-west.

Skye ix. 13 June 1921.

510. Dun Borrafiach, Vaternish. — About $1\frac{5}{8}$ miles north-north-east of Trumpan church (No. 502), on the western slope of Beinn a Ghobhainn, overlooking the Little Minch with the islands of Harris and North Uist in the distance, at an elevation of over 400 feet above sea-level, are the ruins of a broch, Dun Borrafiach. It is built on a slight rocky knove in a hollow in the hill-



FIG. 230.—Dun Borrafiach (No. 510).

side, sheltered by quickly rising ground on the north and east, while on the west there is a

gentle slope terminating about 600 yards distant on the edge of the cliff, which rises direct from the sea to a height of 200 feet over a length of more than 2 miles. (Fig. 207.)

The wall of the broch remains standing on the outside to a general height of 6 to 10 feet, except on the north-east and at the entrance on the north-west, where it is lower. Some of the blocks on the outside are of considerable size, one stone being noticeable, which measures 3 feet in length and 2 feet 9 inches in height. The wall face shows the usual inward batter. The interior of the building contains a great mass of fallen stones from 4 to 8 feet in depth, which almost obscures the inner wall. The building is circular, the internal diameter measuring 32 feet 9 inches, and the wall is from 10 feet 9 inches to 13 feet 4 inches thick. The entrance is to a great extent obscured with dislodged stones, but at the outside it measures 2 feet 9 inches in width, and has widened towards the interior. On the north-east, at a height of about 13 feet above the outside foundation, a gallery can be detected. Judging from its height it seems to have been part of an upper gallery. It is 3 feet wide with an inner wall 2 feet 8 inches in thickness and an outer 5 feet.

Skye ix. 9 June 1921.

511. Dun Gearymore, Vaternish.—Dun Gearymore is a broch in an extremely dilapidated condition, but though the mound formed by its remains looks insignificant, it still preserves some of the features of this class of defence much better than many which show a greater height of building. It is situated on the summit of a hillock on the western slope of Beinn Buidhe, at an elevation of 400 feet above sea-level, about 1 mile north by east of Dun Borrafiach (No. 509), and some 500 yards from the edge of the cliffs on the western shore of Vaternish peninsula. The broch is circular and measures about 35 feet 3 inches in diameter internally, its wall being about 11 feet thick. The outer face of the wall is traceable for the greater part of the circumference, but is reduced to only one or two courses of building, except towards the north-west, where it stands 3 feet in height. The interior is filled to a depth of about 4 feet with stones almost entirely obscuring the inner face of the wall. The entrance cannot be

detected. On the north-western arc a break in the lintels gives access to a gallery in the interior of the wall on the ground level, which extends north and east in perfect condition for a distance of about 29 feet. It is very narrow, seldom exceeding 1 foot 6 inches in width, and it is about 5 feet in height. Some 20 feet 6 inches from the present opening on the level of the floor is a well built opening 1 foot 6 inches square leading through the wall into the interior of the broch, apparently an entrance to the gallery. Adjoining the inner and eastern end of this gallery, in the north-eastern arc of the wall, are two conjoined oval chambers or cells considerably dilapidated; the western portion is the worse preserved, and though its length cannot be ascertained, it measures 3 feet 4 inches in width, while the eastern cell seems to be about 8 feet in length and 4 feet 6 inches in breadth. Traces of a gallery are noticeable round the southern side of the dun, and possibly part of it is intact as at least one roofing lintel remains in position. This gallery is also narrow; it measures about 1 foot 6 inches in width, and its outer and inner walls 5 feet 3 inches and 4 feet 6 inches in thickness respectively.

There are numerous ruined houses and stone dykes in the vicinity.

Skye v. 21 May 1915

512. Dun Edinbain.—On the hillside above the south-eastern extremity of Edinbain township, at an elevation of about 350 feet above sea-level, and built near the edge of a slight rocky bluff on the face of a terrace, is the fragment of a broch. Only the outer ring of the foundations and a very short length of the inner face of the wall on the east are traceable. A shapeless heap of stones about 6 feet in height occupies the greater part of the interior. It is circular and measures some 56 feet in diameter externally, and, as the wall has been about 11 feet 6 inches thick, the internal diameter has been about 33 feet. The entrance cannot be detected, but on the west a short length of a narrow gallery from 2 feet to 2 feet 6 inches wide is preserved.

Skye xvi. 22 May 1915.

513. Dun Flashader.—Dun Flashader is a very dilapidated broch built on the summit

of a flat-topped rocky eminence surrounded by crags about 25 feet in height, some 500 yards north-north-east of the U.F. church at Flashader, at an elevation of about 200 feet above sea-level, overlooking Loch Greshornish, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile to the west. The inner wall of the broch shows an average height of from 3 to 5 feet, but it is almost hidden by tumbled stones. The outer ring of the wall is traceable only on the north, where the foundation stones remain *in situ*. The dun is circular, measuring 34 feet 9 inches in diameter internally, and the wall at the foundation is 12 feet 3 inches thick. Of the entrance passage, which lies towards the west, only the northern wall is traceable among the debris. In the thickness of the wall on the left-hand side of the entrance there is a ruined guard-chamber or gallery 3 feet 5 inches in width, while to the north-east there are indications of another cell or gallery in the wall. There is the suggestion of the right wall of the entrance to this chamber still in position, and the inner wall of the broch is 4 feet 4 inches thick at this place.

Skye xvi. 24 May 1915.

514. Broch, Glen Heysdal.—Occupying the summit of a very slight rocky knoll on the west side of Glen Heysdal, some 250 yards west of and about 100 feet higher than the Caroy River, about a mile north of where it falls into Loch Caroy, one of the arms of Loch Bracadale, is a fragment of a broch. It stands at an elevation of nearly 200 feet above sea-level, and looking down the glen commands a view of the sea. The broch has been reduced to the foundation course, and it is impossible to detect the whole of the outer ring. Sufficient structure, however, remains to indicate the probable character of the fort and its dimensions. The internal diameter is 34 feet 6 inches and the wall is 12 feet thick. The entrance lies to the west-south-west, but only the southern wall of the passage is partly indicated. The curve of the northern wall of an oval cell 4 feet 4 inches wide, in the thickness of the wall, is traceable on the north-west.

Skye xxii (unnoted). 25 May 1915.

(PROBABLE BROCHS.)

515. Dun Borge, Edinbain.—On a rocky ridge on the eastern shore of Loch Greshornish,

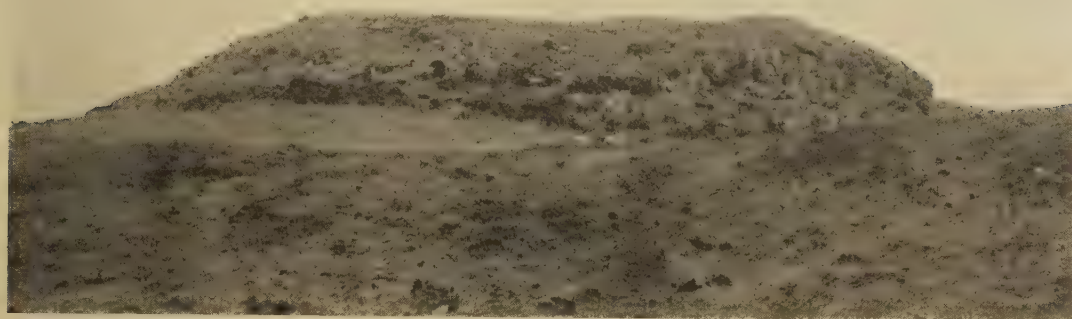


FIG. 233—Dun Adhamh (No. 623).



FIG. 234—Dun na h'Airde (No. 519): General View.



FIG. 235—The Entrance, Dunna h'Airde (No. 519).

at Borge, near Edinbain, are the remains of a dun. On the flanks the ridge rises sharply about 50 feet above the loch on the west and about 20 feet above the land to the east, but at the extremities it tails away more gradually in rocky slopes and bluffs. The building has been entirely removed, leaving a shapeless mass of stone and soil 5 feet high in places, forming a ring about 53 feet in diameter externally. The shape and the dimensions of the remains suggest that this may have been a broch.

Skye xvi. 24 May 1915.

516. Dun Feorlig, Feorlig.—About 250 yards north-north-east of Feorlig farm-house, on an elevated rock projecting into the west side of Loch Caroy, and rising 20 to 25 feet above the sea, are the scanty remains of Dun Feorlig, a circular fort measuring some 53 feet in diameter externally. The wall is represented as a stony mound rising at most about 4 feet above the interior, but only on the south and north is there any trace of building, and then only of the outer foundation course. Across the neck connecting the rock with the land is a hollow about 12 feet broad and 3 feet deep, apparently excavated. The external diameter and the contour of the structure suggest that this may have been a broch.

Skye xxviii. 13 May 1915.

(DUNS.)

517. Dun, Cnoc a'Sga.—On the glebe land of Duirinish parish, about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles south by east of the manse of Duirinish and $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles north of Orbost House, is Cnoc a'Sga, a flat-topped hill rising to a height of about 250 feet above sea-level. Dominating the low country between Loch Bracadale on the south and Loch Dunvegan to the north-west, it is a prominent feature in the landscape. At the south-western end of the summit plateau are the very scanty remains of a dun, the stones of which have almost entirely been carted away for building purposes. A few of the outer foundation stones remain in position on the south, and the outline of the fort is marked only by an irregular ring of dislodged blocks. It has been oval on plan, measuring some 63 feet

internally from north-east to south-west and 59 feet from north-west to south-east. The wall has been about 7 feet thick, and there are slight traces of an entrance about 4 feet wide to the east-south-east.

Skye xxi. 10 May 1915.

518. Dun Chaich, Uiginish.—Some 600 yards south of Uiginish Lodge is a plateau slightly more than 100 feet above sea-level, presenting a line of cliffs some 20 to 30 feet high on its eastern side, below which the ground falls away rapidly to the western shore of Loch Dunvegan about 350 yards distant. The northern extremity of the plateau terminates in a narrow projection bounded on all sides except the south-east, from which the approach is nearly level, by cliffs which rise to a height of about 30 feet. This part is the site of Dun Chaich. It has been a stone walled fort, the rampart having been built round the edge of the cliff and straight across the ridge at the south-east. The enceinte, which is roughly oval, measures 100 feet in length externally along the major axis from north-west to south-east and 50 feet in width. The walling has been thoroughly cleared away, leaving only the outer foundation course across the south-eastern end, and here and there on the south-western flank some short sections of the outer face showing a height of about 3 feet. There are indications of a hut circle some 9 feet in diameter internally near the southern corner of the dun. The entrance cannot be identified.

In the vicinity of the dun is a number of ruins of old houses, the name of the place being Bal-an-Chaich. One house nestling under the cliff on the north-east is pointed out as the dwelling of one of the Macrimmons, the famous pipers. Within the house near the south-western end is a large block of stone, 6 feet 6 inches by 4 feet 3 inches by 2 feet 3 inches, lying slanting on edge. It is said that it was incorporated intentionally in the house.

Skye xxi (unnoted). 6 May 1915.

519. Dun Totaig, Uiginish.—Dun Totaig occupies the summit of a small rocky ridge running north-west and south-east, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west of Uiginish Lodge, and about 300 yards east of Ob Dubh, one of the inner

recesses of Loch Dunvegan. On the south-west flank the rock is precipitous, rising about 30 feet in height, and on the north-east side it rises about 15 feet above the slight hollow which intervenes between the ridge and higher ground beyond; the south-eastern end is steep and rocky, and at the north-western end there is a narrow ridge falling away in a gradual slope. The elevation above sea-level is barely 100 feet.

The dun, now a mass of tumbled stone, has been partly excavated by the Countess Latour. It is sub-oval in shape, with the north-western end flattened, and measures externally 89 feet in length from north-west to south-east and about 48 feet in breadth. The thickness of the wall is indeterminate on the north-eastern flank, but is 18 feet at the entrance and seems to vary from 15 to 23 feet round the southern

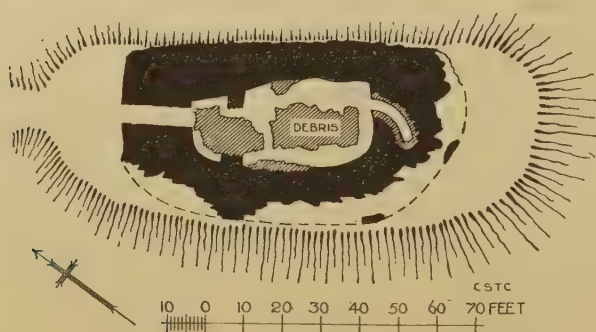


FIG. 231.—Dun Totaig (No. 519).

arc, where the outer foundation course is traceable for a few yards. The north-western end has been cleared of debris, and shows this part of the wall to be about 3 feet high and built of large blocks of stone, with the entrance passage near its centre averaging 4 feet 10 inches in width and running straight through without checks.

About 10 feet from the entrance inside there has been a cross wall, 3 feet 8 inches to 5 feet 6 inches thick, only the ends of which remain projecting from the side walls. The interior is full of debris, and in the south-eastern end a curved passage 2 feet 8 inches wide and 14 feet long, with a present height of about 4 feet, seems to be a later penetration of the main wall.

Skype xxi (unnoted). 15 June 1921

520. Dun na h-Airde, Greshornish Point.—On the western shore of Loch Greshornish, almost $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles north-north-east of Greshornish House and some 650 yards south-south-east of Greshornish Point, is an irregularly shaped elevated plateau almost surrounded by the sea and connected on the west by a narrow neck to the land. It has rocky

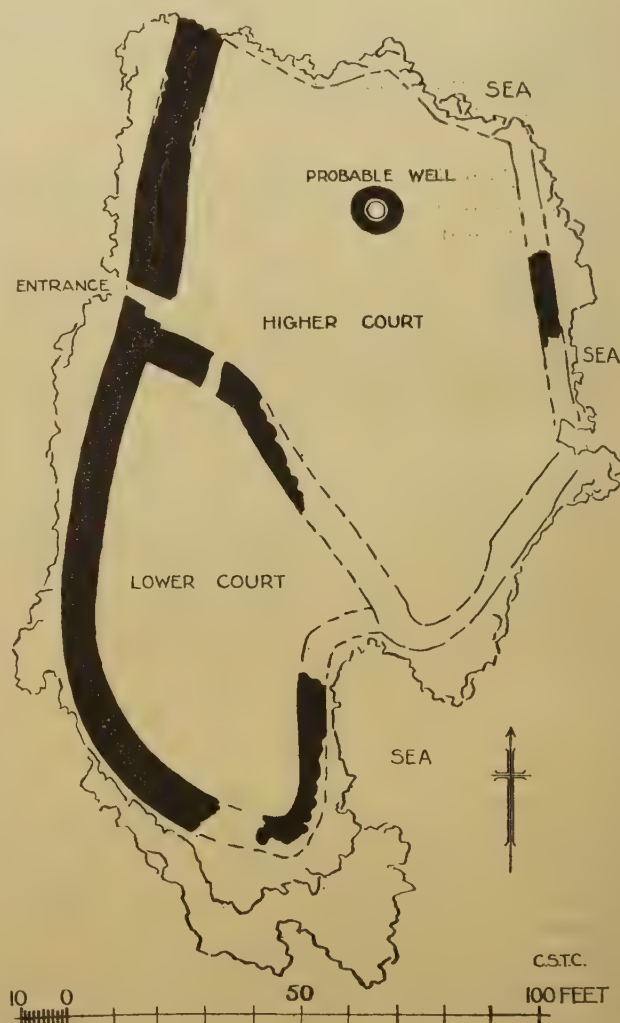


FIG. 232.—Dun na h-Airde (No. 520).

sides, mostly precipitous, which on the north rise about 50 feet straight out of the water, but which towards the south fall to a height of about 20 feet. The summit has a pronounced slope from north-north-east to south-south-west to a lower terrace, all of which is occupied

by the remains of a fort which has been defended by a strong wall on the landward or western flank, and by a weaker one on the side next the water, both of which are built on or near the edge of the rocks. The latter, which shows a thickness of 4 or 5 feet, is reduced to the foundations, but the wall on the west shows a height of 3 feet of its outer face in position in several places. For the greater part of its length it is only a mass of stones 4 feet in height, and it measures from 7 feet on the south to 10 feet in thickness near the northern end. The dun is divided into two wards by a stone wall running from north-west to south-east, the larger on the north having a mean length of 100 feet and a mean width of 78 feet, while the smaller on the south, on a gradual slope at a lower elevation, averages 68 feet in length and 46 feet in width. The approach to the dun is from the ridge connecting it with the land, and a roadway, probably built up on the outer side, slants up the rocks and enters the northern court at its south-western angle through a well defined entrance, which is 12 feet higher than the crest of the ridge. At the outside the gateway measures 3 feet in width, and the passage, which is paved with long slabs, gradually widens to a width of 3 feet 6 inches at a distance of 4 feet 5 inches from the outside. At this place there is a check or break on the wall on the south side 2 feet 4 inches deep. The passage has a width of some 5 feet 8 inches at the inside. The wall on the immediate north side has a thickness of 10 feet 9 inches, and that on the south 8 feet 10 inches. The divisional wall, 7 feet 6 inches thick, between the courts begins 1 foot 3 inches south of the inside of the entrance, and in it at a distance of 15 feet 7 inches eastwards from the main wall is the passage, 3 feet 6 inches wide, connecting the two wards. (Figs. 234, 235.)

In the northern and higher court is a finely built circular well, the wall of which stands exposed for some 2 feet above the rubbish which has accumulated in it. It measures from 3 feet to 3 feet 6 inches in diameter and seems to have been surrounded by a parapet, but this is almost gone.

Skye xvi. 8 June 1921.

521. **Dun Meall an Duna, Greshornish.**—On the summit of a rocky ridge, Meall an

Duna, rising about 150 yards from the north-eastern side of a small artificial loch some 500 yards west of Greshornish House, at an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level, are traces of a dun. On the eastern and western flanks the ridge rises in rocky scarps to a height of from 20 to 40 feet above its surroundings, while the ends rise less sharply. The fort is roughly egg-shaped and measures internally about 90 feet in length from north to south and some 66 feet in width at most. It has been defended by a stone wall built on the edge of the rocks. This has almost disappeared, but on the northern end a bank of stone and earth, 11 feet in breadth and 3 feet in height, remains.

Skye xvi. 24 May 1915.

522. **Dun Neill, Balmore.**—On the western side of the peninsula, terminating in Harlosh Point and about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of that promontory, is Dun Neill, which occupies the summit of a roughly oval, flat-topped rock, almost surrounded by water during high tides and rising in almost inaccessible rocks some 15 feet above the ground on the landward side, and from 20 to 40 feet above the beach on the remaining part of its circumference. The main axis of the rocky plateau runs north-east and south-west (260° mag.), and the main building of the dun occupies the north-eastern end. This building is oval on plan, measuring 76 feet from north-east to south-west externally and about 40 feet in breadth. The wall has almost entirely disappeared round the greater part of the dun, but on the landward side one, and, for a short section, two of the outer courses remain in position, the wall showing a thickness of 10 feet. The seaward part of the plateau, which measures some 55 feet in length and 30 feet in breadth in places, has apparently been surrounded by a stone parapet built on the edge of the rocks, but this has almost disappeared. The dun has been entered by a sloping gap in the rock on its northern side, and one step of a stair remains *in situ*. Between the wall of the dun and the edge of the rocks towards the land is a space about 10 feet in width, and there are indications of an outer wall at this part.

Skye xxvii. 13 May 1915.

CAIRNS.

523. Cairns (supposed), Glen Osdale.—On the Duirinish parish minister's glebe about 1 mile south of the manse on an almost level stretch of peaty moorland at an elevation of nearly 100 feet above sea-level, some 40 to 100 yards north of the march between the glebe and Orbost grazings, is a group of peaty mounds, which have much the appearance of small cairns covered with peat. The mound next to the march is oval in shape and rather steep on the east side, and measures 18 feet in length by 14 feet in breadth and about 3 feet in height; the second mound, some 65 yards north, is circular with a diameter of 15 feet and a height of 2 feet 6 inches; the third, 40 feet to the south-south-west of the first, is 15 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height; and the fourth and fifth, in a line running almost due west of the first, at intervals of about 45 and 70 yards, measure 19 feet and 17 feet in diameter, and 3 feet and 2 feet 6 inches in height, respectively. On probing to a depth of from 1½ to 2 feet stones are met with in all the mounds except the fourth, which is the largest, and most regular in shape. In this case, though the probe penetrated some 4½ feet, no stones were encountered, but the peat surrounding it showed even a greater depth.

Skye xxi (unnoted). 12 May 1915.

524. Cairns (probably chambered), Vatten.—About ½ mile north-east of Vatten on a rocky shelf on the hillside at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, is a ruined cairn reduced to about 4 feet in height and augmented round the edge by stones gathered from the fields adjoining. It seems to have been circular and about 70 feet in diameter. About 700 yards to the east of the last cairn and some 150 yards south-west of the Dunvegan and Struan road, on a slight plateau to the north-east of the summit of a small hill of about 200 feet elevation above sea-level, is a circular cairn about 90 feet in diameter and 20 feet in height. The surface of the cairn is considerably disturbed, but the core seems to be intact. Apparently it has been surrounded by a kerb of stone blocks set edge to edge, as a section of this ring remains in position on the eastern arc. One large block set on edge measures 7 feet in length and 3 feet

2 inches in height, and another 3 feet in height and 3 feet 3 inches in breadth. There is no indication of an entrance passage to a central chamber. Nearly 100 yards to the south-south-east is another cairn utterly ruined, the interior having been opened and the stones thrown over the sides of the cairn. The heap of stones now measures 120 feet in length and 110 feet in breadth, and the height of the stones above the excavated hollow measures about 11 feet. Two large blocks of stone are seen amongst the debris. Two of these cairns are marked "Barpannan" on the O.S. map. (Fig. 236.)

A fourth cairn lies about ¼ mile to the south, but has been greatly pillaged. It is 58 feet in diameter and is reduced to a height of 4 feet. Evidently the larger stones have all been removed to build an adjoining dyke. This cairn is marked "Barpa" on map.

Skye xxviii. 13 May 1915.

MISCELLANEOUS.

525. Standing Stone (probable), The Water Horse's Grave, Osdale.—On a flat shelf once under cultivation on the eastern slope of Dun Chlach, about 400 yards north-north-west of Osdale croft, is a fallen monolith, possibly once set up as a standing stone. It is a rough four-sided prism and entirely different from the blocks of stone in the neighbourhood. It measures 7 feet in length, 16 to 20 inches in thickness, and is at least 18 inches broad. According to a local tradition a water horse, which was killed by a ploughman with a red-hot plough coulter, is buried here.

Skye xxi (unnoted). 12 May 1915.

526. Hut Circle, Greshornish.—On a shelf on the hillside rising from the western shore of Loch Greshornish about ⅝ mile north-north-east of Greshornish House, and 150 yards from, and 50 feet higher than, the loch, is a hut circle 17 feet in diameter internally with a wall 3 feet thick, the stones of which stand about 9 inches above the grass.

Skye xvi (unnoted). 24 May 1915.

527. Earth-house, Claigan.—On the slope of the hill, some 550 yards east by south of Claigan Farmhouse, where there is a stretch of fairly level ground, at an elevation of nearly 250 feet above sea-level, is an earth-house which, though



FIG. 237—Carn Liath (No. 632).

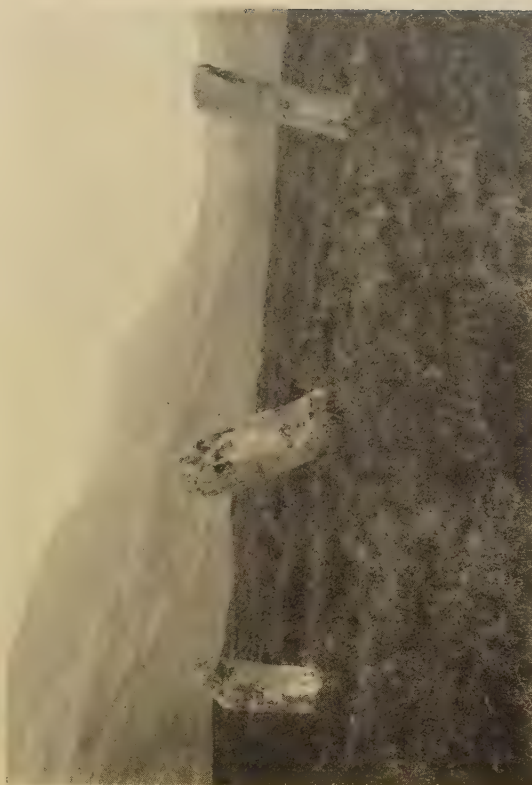


FIG. 239—Stone Circle, Strathaird (No. 667).



FIG. 236—Circular Cairn, Vatten (No. 524).



FIG. 238—Chambered Cairn, Ullinish Lodge (No. 493).

partly destroyed, is in a better state of preservation than most of the structures of this class in the Isle of Skye. It consists of a long narrow gallery running in a north-easterly direction (260° mag.), and 1 foot below the surface of the ground for a distance of 36 feet where the passage is blocked by debris. The entrance is dilapidated and measures 2 feet 5 inches in width. For a distance of about 9 feet the floor is nearly level, and at this place the gallery widens to about 3 feet 3 inches, the height being some 3 feet 5 inches. There is a rise in the floor towards the inner end, and the chamber gradually narrows to a width of 2 feet 2 inches. The walls are built of rough drystone building, and the roof is formed by stone lintels. A number of the side stones have been removed and the cavities thus formed have somewhat the appearance of bores or recesses, but only four of them, three on the south wall and one on the opposite wall, seem to have been built when the earth-house was constructed. These are placed about half-way along the passage, on the floor level, and measure from 12 inches to 18 inches in height and from 13 inches to 16 inches in breadth. Farther up the hill than the present blocked end of the earth-house is a hollow with blocks of stone appearing above the soil around its margin. This might be the terminal chamber of the earth-house, but there are remains of old houses and enclosure walls in the neighbourhood, and this feature may have been connected with them.

Skye xv (unnoted). 12 May 1915.

528. Symbol Stone, Dunvegan Castle.—At Dunvegan Castle is preserved the fragment of a symbol stone which originally stood at Tobar na Maor beside Dun Osedale (No. 507). It is a rough block of stone 3 feet 1 inch in breadth and 1 foot 5 inches high. The stone is very much weathered, but the crescent with broken rod and two concentric circles, the outer being $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, possibly part of the spectacle ornament, can be traced. (Fig. 264.)

Skye xxi. 7 May 1915.

SITES

529. Congan's Chapel at Glasvín, Glen Dale.
Skye xx.

530. Chapel near Dun Neill in Harlosh Peninsula.

Skye xxvii.

531. Dunelireach, north of Harlosh.—Now occupied by crofter's house.

Skye xxvii.

532. Cairn on top of Healaval More.

Skye xxvii (unnoted).

533. Earth-house, Rosgill.—The site of this earth-house lies barely 200 yards north-east of Rosgill School, on the steep left bank of the Rosgill River. The entrance passage ran under the surface of the ground at right angles to the burn, but no trace of the building is now to be seen.

Skye xxi. 13 May 1915.

534. Earth-house, Totaig, Colbost.—The site of this earth-house lies behind a stable about 20 yards east of the small Totaig Burn, about 400 yards north-north-east of Colbost School. No traces of the building are visible, but a deep hollow is pointed out as the site of the inner chamber of the earth-house, and the passage is said to have led out to the steep right bank of the burn.

Skye xxi (unnoted). 7 May 1915.

PARISH OF KILMUIR.

ECCLESIASTICAL CONSTRUCTION, ETC.

535. Monastery, Loch Chaluim Chille.—Nearly 1 mile north by west of Monkstadt is an extensive meadow, the bed of Loch Chaluim Chille before it was drained. On two slightly elevated plateaus which were small islands before the water was drawn off, are the remains of a church and a cashel. The church, rectangular on plan, is built of stone and lime, the lateral walls 2 feet 6 inches and the gables 3 feet 6 inches thick still standing to a general height of 4 or 5 feet above the fallen debris in the interior. It lies east-north-east and west-south-west and measures internally 21 feet 6 inches in

length and 12 feet in breadth. The door, 3 feet wide with scarcely any splay on the jambs, is placed in the northern wall 5 feet 4 inches from the western end, and there is a splayed window in the centre of the east gable, 1 foot 3 inches wide on the exterior, widening to 1 foot 8 inches in the interior.

The cashel, which lies 75 yards north of the church and occupies the entire area of the island on which it is built, is egg-shaped on plan, measuring internally 68 feet from east-north-east to west-south-west, and 50 feet in breadth. It is enclosed by a wall of drystone building, varying in thickness from 7 feet on the west to

extension of the plateau on which the church is situated. About 90 feet from the cashel a branch path strikes to the west. There has probably been a pathway from the end of the causeway along the base of the outer face of the south-western arc of the enclosure as far as the entrance to the cashel, which lies on the south side facing the church.

Skye vi. 6 June 1921.

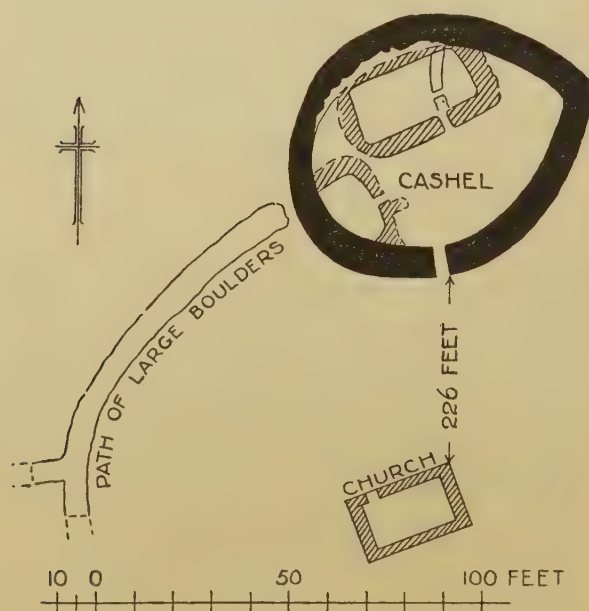


FIG. 240.—Monastery, Loch Chaluum Chille (No. 535).

8 feet on the south and east, and to 11 feet on the north. Within the cashel are two enclosures; one in the south-western segment is an irregular oval, and the other against the northern wall is rectangular. The former measures internally 19 feet in length and 12 feet 6 inches in breadth, the latter 32 feet in length and 15 feet in breadth internally, with a doorway in the southern wall which is about 5 feet thick. The gables have rounded corners and the enclosures appear to be secondary.

The cashel is connected by a causeway 100 feet in length, 5 or 6 feet in breadth, and 2 feet high, which runs from the south-west in a southerly curve to the north-north-western

536. Effigy, Kilmuir Churchyard.—In Kilmuir Churchyard is a stone slab 6 feet 3½ inches in length and 2 feet 1 inch in breadth, bearing the effigy of a knight in armour carved on it in high relief. The figure represents a man with a conical helmet (bascinet) on the head, with a camail on the shoulders over a quilted coat reaching to the knees. The hands encased in glaives are held in front, the left hand, with knuckles outward, grasping the top of his sword sheath, in which is a sword 3 feet 6½ inches in length with depressed quillons and a fan-shaped pommel divided into seven segments. The sword belt and attachment on either side of the hand are still visible with a buckle suspended. The right hand, palm outwards, holds an indeterminate object, perhaps the end of the belt. The figure measures 5 feet 7 inches in length to the heels, the feet and the object on which they rest having been obliterated.

To the dexter side of the head is a plain uninscribed panel, while in the sinister are two rectangular panels with an inscription in Gothic characters running longitudinally, which, so far as legible, reads :

HIC JA
CETE

Round the edge of the slab is an incised double beading, and on the flat on either side of the waist is a foliaceous design.

Skye iv (unnoted). 28 May 1914.

537. Carved Slab, Kilmuir Churchyard.—Another slab, 6 feet 1 inch in length and 1 foot 8 inches in breadth at the top, 1 foot 7½ inches at the bottom, bears a galley or lymphad in a shield in the upper part with a two-handed sword below, measuring 3 feet 10 inches in length. On the dexter side of the hilt is the figure of a stag and another animal placed longitudinally on the stone, and on the sinister side

is another animal, perhaps a lion rampant. On either side of the blade is a foliaceous design.

GRAVE SLAB.—A grave slab, probably late 17th century, bears the following incomplete inscription :—

HERE LYES | THE REMAINS OF | CHARLES MAC |
KARTER WHOSE | FAME AS AN HON | EST MAN
AND | REMARKABLE PIP | ER WILL SURVIVE |
THIS GENERATION | FOR HIS MANNERS | WERE
EASY & RE | GULAR AS HIS | MUSIC AND THUS
THO | THE MELODY OF | HIS FINGERS WILL . . .

On the MacArthurs as pipers see *New Stat. Acct.*, XIV., p. 285.

Skye iv (unnoted). 28 May 1914.

CASTLE.

538. Duntulm Castle.—This later seat of the Macdonalds of Sleat occupies the seaward end

the fourth or landward approach slopes downwards to a dry ditch cut through earth and rock to a width, where most sharply defined, on the western curve, of 14 feet, elsewhere broadening to about 25 feet. Midway a broad track crosses at nearly outside level, but this seems to have been formed in late times for convenience of approach. The depth of the ditch varies, but at some parts, where least worn down, is from 10 to 15 feet. (Fig. 289.)

The buildings are arranged in a manner usual on a promontory site. The principal structure, which has been a substantial oblong block of 15th century date, about 82 feet in length and 30 feet in breadth, lies athwart the site fronting the ditch, and from the buildings screen walls return, closely following the sinuosities of the cliff edge, and enclose an area, irregular in shape, of about 800 square yards; the interior level of the enclosure is very irregular and there are

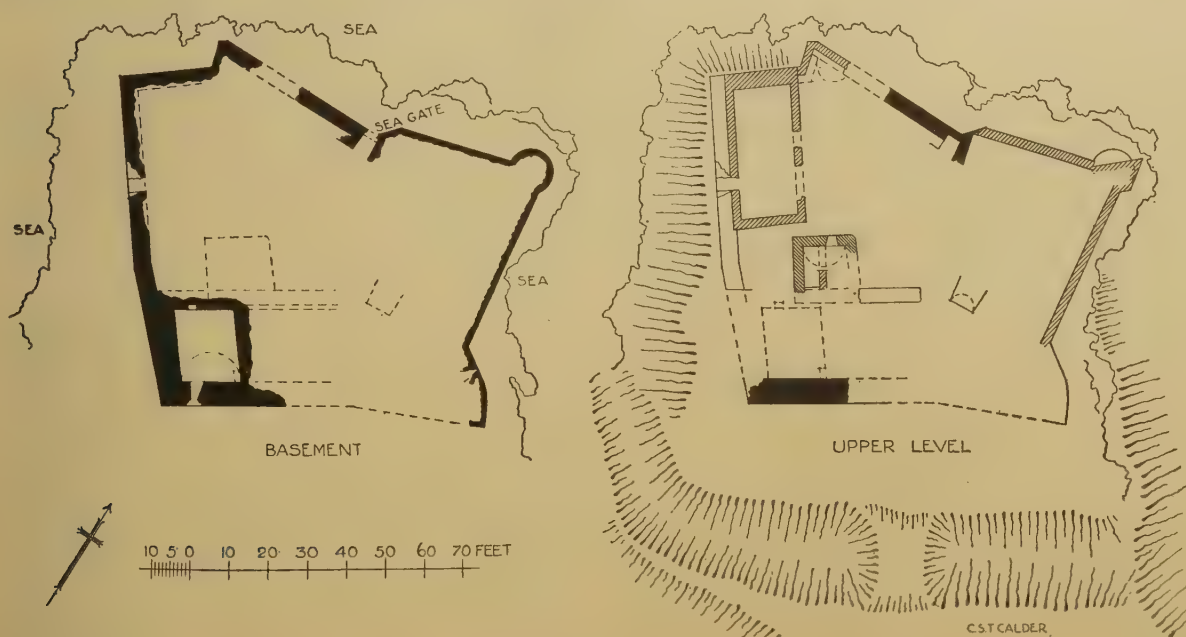


FIG. 241.—Duntulm Castle (No. 538).

of a flat ridge running almost due north on the south side of Port Duntulm, about 2 miles south of Rudha Hunish, the termination of the peninsula of Trotternish and the most northerly point of Skye. It stands on a quadrangular site fifty feet above the level of the sea, and has cliffs sinking steeply to the sea on three sides, while

indications of vaulted substructures, in places built against the outer walls, over nearly the whole of it. An early photograph familiar in reproduction shows the buildings in much better preservation than at present. The front building is now greatly reduced; the basement has been vaulted and one vaulted

chamber still exists at the southern angle. It measures 15 feet 6 inches by 18 feet 1 inch and is partly filled with debris, but can be entered through a broken window in the southern face; the vault rises to about 8 feet above the present floor. There is an aumbry at the northern end and a fireplace with flue through the vaulting at the south-east corner. There has been, apparently, a second vaulted chamber adjoining, and beyond this to the east the principal entrance, which has passed through the block to the courtyard. A mall 17th-century tower, measuring $16\frac{1}{2}$ by $13\frac{1}{2}$ feet, has been added to the main block, with which it communicated, and projects within the courtyard; it contained a vaulted storey at the level of the upper floor of the main block, an upper storey and an attic floor, but there may be an undercroft under the debris and not now accessible. In the vaulted storey a scale and platt stair has been inserted at a later time. The roof was gabled and the north gable remains, the skewput having the usual cavetto. A window, 4 feet by 2 feet 6 inches, with a pointed arch head lit the vaulted chamber. Beyond the tower in the north-west corner of the enclosure is a later house 34 feet in length and 15 feet in breadth within walls 2 feet 2 inches thick. The west wall is built against the wall of enceinte, while the north gable is built upon the wall. There is an opening through both walls on the west side, 3 feet wide, and to the south of it a silled opening in the east wall with a wider gap. There are joist holes in both lateral walls, 7 feet 8 inches from ground level.

The walls of the enceinte vary considerably in thickness. The west face, which is throughout original, has a thickness of 4 feet 4 inches. At the north-west corner is a corbelled projection about 10 feet from the ground constructed in thin continuous slabs of stone. The projection still rises to some 4 or 5 feet in height and is some $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide on each side of the angle, while the lower slabs are continued as a string-course along the northern face of the wall as far as a re-entrant angle. From this angle the wall returns as a flat receding angle and near the apex is a postern or sea-gate which opens below the level of the present interior, as the ground outside is but a narrow ledge, which drops to the sea-level in perpendicular cliffs; access here could be got only by some artificial

means. The north-eastern angle of the enclosure is a projecting bastion circular on the lower part, the upper part being angular. The eastern angle of the main block is also an angular bastion.

The building throughout is in the local basaltic rubble, some of which is much weatherworn. It is in a very bad condition and much of it has fallen within recent years.

To the south of the castle is a natural oval mound about 3 feet high with a very slight rampart or rim round the top known as Cnoc a Mhoid ("Moot Hill").

HISTORICAL NOTE.—The earliest specific mention of Duntulm is in the *Description of the Isles* appended to Skene's *Celtic Scotland* (vol. iii. p. 432), which he dates between 1577 and 1595: "Thair was ane castell in Trouternes callit Duncolmen (c was frequently confused with t), quhairof the wallis standis yet." The next is in the obligation imposed upon Sir Donald Macdonald of Sleat by the Privy Council in 1617: "that the said Sir Donald sall mak his residence and duelling at Duntillum, and, yf he has not a sufficient comelie house ansuerable to his estate alreddy thair that he sall with all convenient diligence prepair materiallis and caus build ane civile and comelie house, and, yf his hous be decayit, that he sall repair and mend the same."

The history of Duntulm is bound up with that of the Trotternish lands, which, after the forfeiture of the Macdonald, Lords of the Isles, became a royal baillary. In 1498 Alexander Macleod of Dunvegan was granted the office of baillie. Later, however, in the same month and year the same office was conferred upon Torquil Macleod of Lewis with the lands of "Duntullyn," i.e. Duntulm.¹ But in 1510 Gilleasbuig Dubh, son of Hugh Macdonald of Sleat, was baillie,² and from this time the Sleat family maintained a claim on these lands as rivals of the Dunvegan Macleods. In 1549 Trotternish is said by Dean Monro to belong to Donald (Macdonald) Gormson of Sleat. Finally, during the closing years of the 16th century a series of royal charters to Donald Gorm Mor, culminating in a confirmation of 1618 to his successor, Donald Gorm Og ("the younger"), settled the Trotternish lands upon

¹ R.M.S., s.a., Nos. 2420, 2424; ² *Reg. Sec. Sig.*, in *Origines Parochiales*, ii., part 1, p. 351.

the Sleat family, who were to compensate the Dunvegan Macleods with a sum of money. Thereafter Sir Donald was to make his dwelling at Duntulm, as expressed above. The ancient seat of the Sleat Macdonalds or Clan Huisdein had been Dun Scaich (No. 599). In all the various official documents applying to these Trotternish lands there is no reference to the castle.

Skye iv. 4 June 1921.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(BROCHS.)

539. Dun Greanan, Loch Mealt. — Dun Greanan occupies the extremity of a low promontory on the northern shore of Loch Mealt, at the township of Elishader. Apparently it has been a broch, but the greater part of the building has been removed and what remains is used as a sheep fank. The outline of the structure is traceable for the greater part of its circumference; on the north-western and north-eastern quadrants about 3 feet of building remains in position, although towards the north-east it is hidden under fallen debris: on the southern half it is reduced to the foundation course and for a short distance this has been carried away. Although the inner face of the wall stands some 4 feet in height, the most of this has been rebuilt in recent times. The internal diameter of the broch, which seems to form almost a true circle, is 35 feet 3 inches, and the wall is 10 feet thick on the west and 11 feet on the north. A gallery within the wall, about 2 feet 3 inches in width, is traceable the whole length of the north-western sector, its outer wall being about 3 feet 6 inches thick, and in places along the southern arc there seem to be traces of the inner wall of a gallery.

On the east side of the dun looking out into the loch there are very faint indications of the south side of an entrance passage.

Skye viii. 31 August 1915.

540. Dun Raisaburgh. — At Raisaburgh, some 400 yards south-south-west of Loch Mealt, is a narrow, rocky ridge running almost due north and south, and rising from 30 to 50 feet above the surrounding moorland.

Near its southern end, though not on the highest point, are the scanty ruins of a broch, Dun Raisaburgh. The wall is quite broken down on the east side, but for the remaining part of its circumference the outer face is still traceable; the inner face is quite indistinguishable, being either destroyed or covered with debris. On the south two and three courses of the outer face remain, on the west only the foundation course is traceable, but on the north about 2 feet of building appears above the debris which has accumulated at the bottom of the wall to a depth of some 2 or 3 feet. The external diameter of the building, which is measurable only from north to south, is 53 feet 3 inches. A length of 22 feet of a gallery in the thickness of the wall on the northern arc is clearly defined, its outer wall reaching a height of 3 feet in places. As the inner wall is much disturbed it is impossible to obtain the width of the gallery or the complete thickness of the wall of the broch. The entrance cannot be identified.

An outer defence crosses the ridge some 32 feet 6 inches south of the main building. It takes the form of a stone wall some 6 feet thick, now practically reduced to the foundation. This wall appears to have returned northwards along the eastern edge of the ridge as far as the chief structure, but on the west side, which is higher and steeper at this part, there is no appearance of a wall. Some 25 feet north of the broch there are very faint indications of another outer wall thrown across the ridge.

Skye viii. 31 August 1915.

(GALLERIED DUN.)

541. Dun Liath, Kilvaxter. — About $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-north-west of Uig, at Cairidh nan Ob, the extreme western point of Trotternish, is Dun Liath, a galleried dun occupying the summit of a rocky ridge which runs parallel to the sea-shore. Protected on the western flank and the northern end by a cliff about 40 to 50 feet in height, and on the eastern flank by a steep escarpment rising some 20 feet above the hollow which separates it from the rising ground on the landward side, it is approached from the south in a gradual rise broken by outcropping rocks. The enceinte is drop-shaped, the narrow end towards the north, and measures along the

major axis, which runs north-north-west and south-south-east, 170 feet externally, while it is about 107 feet at its widest. It is defended by a wall of stone built on the edge of the summit, which is best preserved on the eastern flank and southern end, and varies in thickness from 8 to 12 feet; along the western flank on the edge of the cliff, where it seems to have been about 5 feet in width, it is practically obliterated. At the southern end the wall still reaches a height

feet remains, shows a thickness of $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet. Commencing about 6 feet from the entrance the gallery is traceable northwards, with slight breaks, for a distance of some 70 feet, where it apparently terminates. The probable doorway to this gallery is 26 feet north of the entrance.

In the interior of the wall round the southern end are three similar galleries, averaging about 3 feet in width, with the inner and outer walls

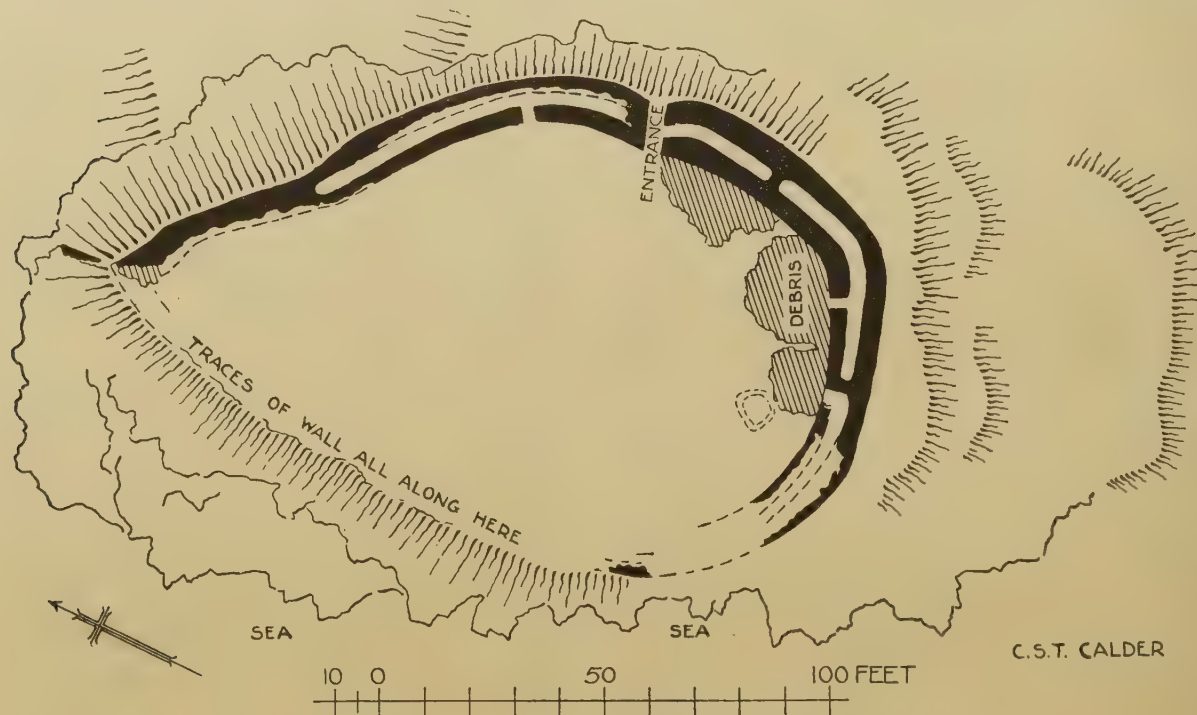


FIG. 242.—Dun Liath (No. 541).

of about 6 feet above the level of the interior, exhibiting a section of fine drystone building, and on the eastern flank considerable lengths of the lower courses of the outer face remain in position. An outer defence in the shape of a line of large stones set on end and following an intermittent, low outcrop of rock across the approaching ridge can be traced at a distance of 15 to 19 feet from the main rampart. The entrance to the dun is towards the southern end of the eastern flank and measures $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width.

Within the thickness of the eastern wall is a long narrow gallery, about 2 feet 6 inches wide, the inner wall of which is 3 to 4 feet thick; the outer at the northern end, where a length of 16

measuring from 3 to 5 feet in thickness. The first, which seems to commence on the southern side of the entrance to the fort, is 26 feet long; the second, separated from the first by 3 feet 3 inches of building, measures 50 feet in length, and is entered by a doorway 2 feet wide, 16 feet from its western end; and the third, beginning 3 feet from the last, is much dilapidated, practically the only building apparent being one jamb of the entrance, which is placed at its eastern extremity.

The only structure traceable in the interior of the fort is a hut circle 6 feet in diameter internally, which lies 10 feet distant from the wall in the southern segment.

Skye iii. 4 June 1921.

(DUNS.)

542. **Dun Skudiburgh.**—On the eastern shore of Loch Snizort, about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles west-north-west of Uig, and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north of Ru Idrigil, the promontory on the north side of the mouth of Uig Bay, is a rocky ridge running north-west and south-east, and rising to a height of 100 feet above the sea to the west, and about 50

a few feet of the edge of the rocks to enclose an oval-shaped plateau. There is no entrance visible. (Fig. 212.)

At the north-east of this enclosure are the remains of a drystone building showing a number of interesting features. Somewhat drop-shaped on plan, with the apex to the north, its axes measure internally 35 feet in length and 25 feet in breadth. The wall is built with a

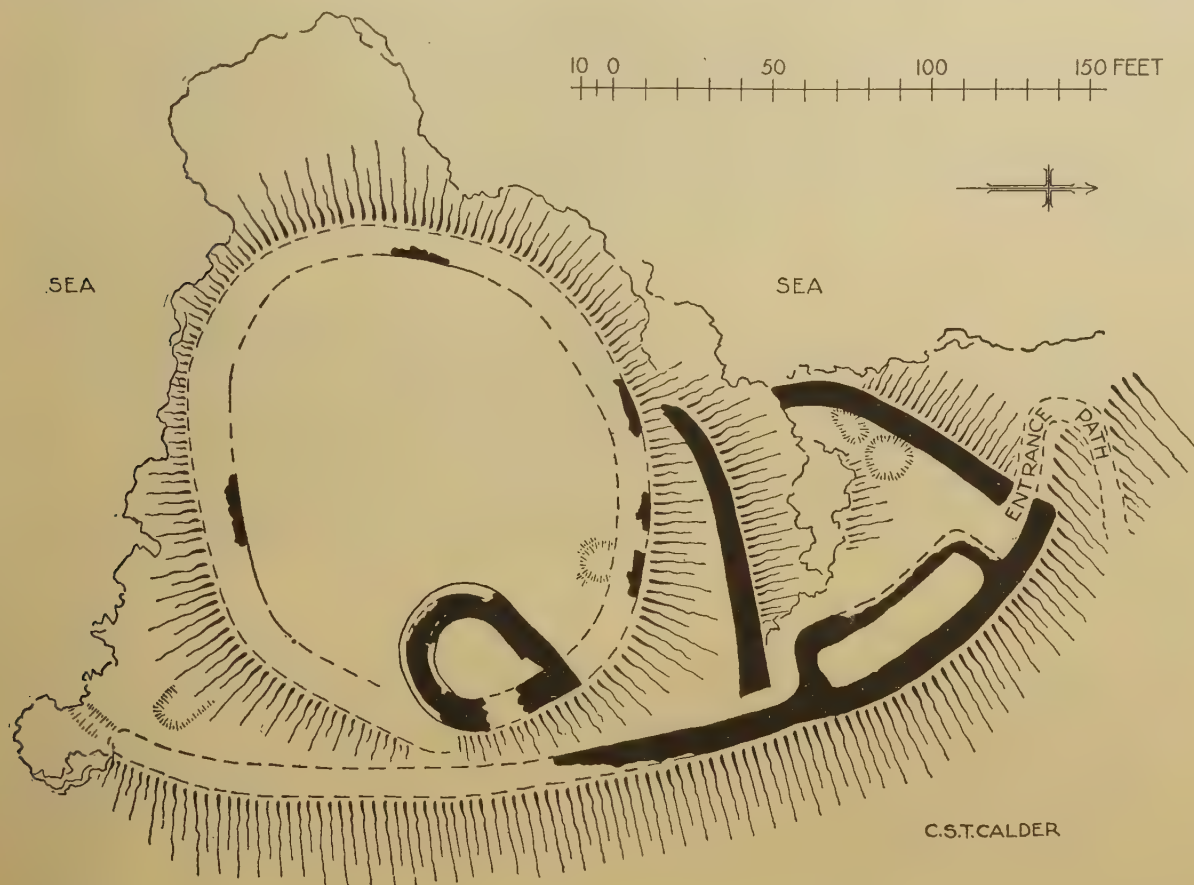


FIG. 243.—Dun Skudiburgh (No. 542).

feet above the hollow which intervenes between it and Creag Liath, a hill 563 feet high on the east. The highest part, a grassy plateau of considerable extent, is towards the southern end of the height which narrows and tails away to the north in a series of terraces and slopes defined by outcrops of rock. The southern end and western flank are precipitous, and on the east it is steep and rocky.

A stone wall probably 9 to 13 feet thick, but now almost obliterated, has been erected within

considerable batter, and in places rises to a height of 9 feet on the outside and 4 feet above the debris in the interior. It varies from about 9 feet thick on the north to 12 feet at the base round the southern arc, where roughly 2 feet or so above the ground it is reduced to 7 feet in thickness by an intake on the outer and inner faces. At the northern corner is a recess 7 feet 4 inches in width and 2 feet in depth. The entrance is indistinguishable, but was no doubt on the east where the wall is most dilapidated.

Abutting on the inside of the northern part of the wall of the inner court and 25 feet north-west of this building is a hut circle 12 to 14 feet in diameter.

Beyond the inner wall and at a lower level an outer stone wall 7 to 9½ feet in thickness has started from the edge of the cliff at the south-eastern end of the ridge, and has been carried in a slight curve along the entire length of the eastern edge of the ridge. The southern half is totally destroyed, but the whole can be followed for 320 feet northwards, where it returns for 75 feet in a south-westerly direction and then curves southwards for 25 feet to meet the cliff on the western flank, thus forming on the northern slope a large triangular outer courtyard, of which a cross wall, about 100 feet in length and 6½ to 9½ feet in thickness, with the rocky shelf on which it is built, is the base. South of this cross wall a lesser triangularly-shaped area slopes downwards from the main wall.

In the outer courtyard on the northern slope are two hut circles abutting on the inside of the western wall and traces of probably two others. Along the inside of the eastern wall is a long narrow area about 59 by 14 feet internally, enclosed by stone foundations averaging 5 feet in thickness. On the terracing at the southern end of the outer wall is a rectangular depression 12 feet wide and of indefinite length.

The entrance to the fort, 8 feet wide, is at the northern extremity and pierces the wall of the outer courtyard at its lowest level. The roadway, defined by a distinct hollow enflanked on the east by the outer wall and the foundations of the narrow area before mentioned, is carried up the hill and passes through a gap between the cross wall and the eastern outer wall along the side of which it continues, but it is impossible to say whether it entered the summit before or after the drop-shaped building was reached.

On the western side of the ridge is a terrace which lies some 50 feet lower than the summit and is bounded on the outside by a high cliff. On this terrace there are considerable debris and the remains of a stone wall, apparently of later construction, built from the base of the cliff above to the edge of the cliff below.

Skye vi. 6 June 1921.

543. **Fort, Tom na h-Uraich, Bagh nan Gunnaichean, near Kilmaluag.**—This cliff fort is situated about 1 mile east of Kilmaluag Bridge, on a slight hillock on the edge of the cliff which rises 200 feet out of the sea at Bagh nan Gunnaichean. Towards the land to the west the ground falls away in a gentle slope. The stones used in the construction of the fort have almost entirely been removed, leaving only two slight banks to mark the lines of the defences. Within an oval enclosure, measuring internally some 30 yards in length from north by west to south by east and 44 feet in breadth, the walls of which terminate on the edge of the cliff on the northern and southern ends, is a circular building 20 feet in diameter internally, placed midway between the edge of the cliff and the outer wall on the western flank and 20 feet from the northern end. The wall of this structure is reduced to a width of 2 feet and a height of 1 foot 6 inches, the entrance being placed in the northern arc. Abutting on the outside of the southern arc is a crescentic enclosure 8 feet broad.

Skye iv. 28 May 1914.

544. **Dun Vallerain, Digg.**—Overlooking the township of Digg from the north-west is a somewhat conical hill rising to a height of over 500 feet above sea-level, with a very steep gradient from all sides. From the north-west to the south-east the slopes are surmounted by cliffs from 20 to 50 feet in height. The summit, which falls towards the north-east, is attained by a winding grassy path up a steep slope from the same direction, rising from the edge of a lochan among the hills. The fortified area, which is of irregular plan, measures 140 feet from north-west to south-east and 63 feet from north-east to south-west, and is defended on the east by a much dilapidated wall 17 feet thick at the entrance following the contour of the hill, short sections of the outer face showing four or five courses of masonry in position. Through this wall the entrance, 5 feet wide, leads into a large hollow on the summit. Round the remainder of the perimeter, which is for the most part precipitous, there are no traces of even a parapet. In front of the entrance there is a quadrangular area enclosed by two stone walls greatly destroyed but probably about 5 feet thick,

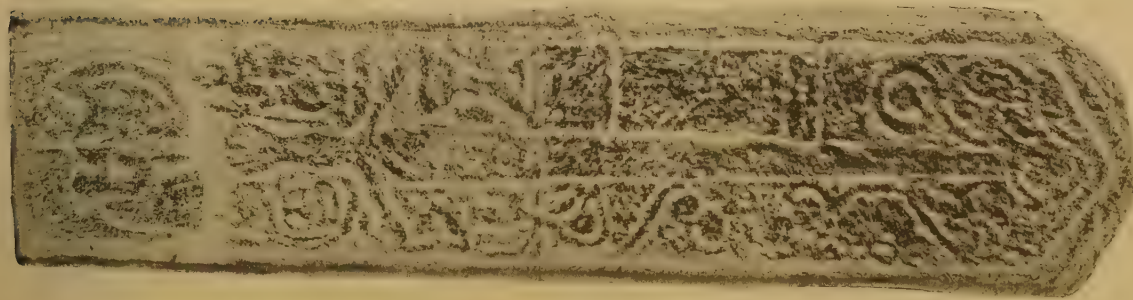


FIG. 244—Glasvin (No. 501).



FIG. 245—Kilmoruy (No. 474).



FIG. 246—Bracadale
(No. 475).

CARVED SLABS.

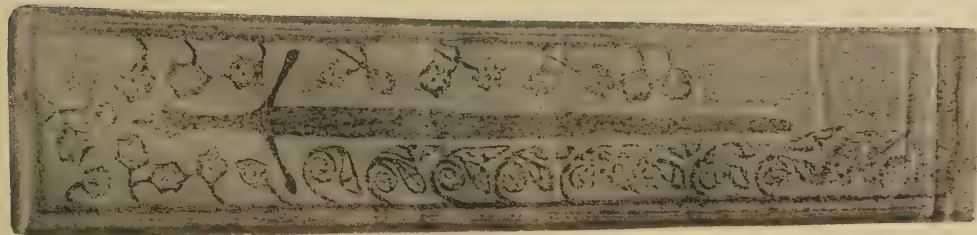


FIG. 247—Kilmuir (No. 500).



FIG. 248—Trumpan
(No. 502).

which spring from the precipice on either side of the summit and converge about 80 feet from



FIG. 249.—Dun Vallerain (No. 544).

the inner gateway; the outer entrance to the dun lies at the point where these walls meet.

Skye iv. 2 June 1921.

545. Dun Beag, near Staffin Bay.—This fort, about $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Staffin Lodge, occupies the oval plateau on the summit of a short ridge which rises abruptly from the steep hillside between the Quirang and Staffin Bay. Attaining a height of 400 feet above sea-level it commands a magnificent view of the rock scenery in the neighbourhood, and of the Ross-shire mountain masses across the intervening stretch of sea. On all sides except the south-west the slope of the hill is long and steep. It rises some 50 feet above the hollow between it and Dun Mor to the north, and about 100 feet above the base of the hill on the eastern flank, the upper part being precipitous.

The fort, which has been encircled by a stone wall, measures about 120 feet in length along

the longer axis from east to west, and some 50 feet in width.

The approach by a stiff gradient along the western extension of the ridge and passing along the northern scarp by a terrace, 16 feet broad, lying some 11 feet below the summit level, has entered the enceinte at the eastern end through a well defined passage, 18 feet long and 5 feet broad, which is enflanked on the south side some 4 feet outwards by a bank, 6 feet high on the outer face, giving directly on the steep slope of the hill. Traces of a wall or parapet bounding the terrace on the outer face can still be identified, and from the inner side of the terrace the base of the wall which has enclosed the summit is still visible. This wall, which must have risen 11 feet to reach the summit level, and consequently must have attained a higher elevation and a width of about 12 feet, shows in places three or four courses of building composed of large blocks of stone.

In the interior of the dun towards the north-western arc lies a hut circle 20 feet in diameter, and apparently there is a second and larger to the east of it which shows a diameter of some 28 feet, and which has the appearance of having been dug out on its southern arc.

At the western end, some 15 feet below the summit and towards the south side, occurs a platform 6 to 8 feet wide, probably to a limited extent artificial. Below it towards its northern end a kerb of stones indicates an outer wall at this part. Below this the ridge has been cut across so as to form a deep ditch 25 feet wide, the bottom of which lies 20 feet below the platform and 7 feet below the crest of the counter-scarp. Some 20 feet from the northern end of the ditch a part has been left unexcavated to permit of an entrance on to the terrace on the northern flank. Outside the ditch to the north of the entrance is a damp hollow with rushes growing in it, which may have been a well.

Skye vii. 27 May 1914.

546. Dun Dearg, Valtos.—The site of Dun Dearg is an elevated plateau on the sea-shore at the northern boundary of the township of Valtos. The plateau, which measures some 88 yards from north to south, and some 40 yards from east to west, is bordered on all sides except the north by precipitous rocks. Along the greater part of the eastern side they rise directly

from the shore for a height of about 200 feet, on the south they are about 30 feet high, and on the east they gradually decrease in height till at the northern end they merge into a narrow ridge on the edge of the cliff, by which access to the fort is gained in a gradual ascent. The first defence, a stone wall, is built across this ridge, from the edge of the cliff on the east to the rocks on the western flank, a distance of some 60 feet; it then is carried a short distance southwards towards the fort. The wall is almost entirely swept away, but at the entrance, which seems to be about 4 feet wide and which is placed near the centre of the ridge, it shows a width of some 6 feet 6 inches. The inner wall, built on the edge of the plateau some 55 feet from, and 14 feet higher than, the outer rampart, though much dilapidated, shows more building than the outer defence. It can be traced across the northern end of the fort and for a considerable distance along the western flank. The entrance through it is near the middle of the northern end but is too much broken down for measurement. To the east of the entrance the outer face of the wall, showing some large blocks of stone in its structure, maintains a height of about 3 feet over a length of some 15 feet. It seems to have been about 8 feet thick and is reduced to a height of 1 foot 6 inches or 2 feet above the interior. A large natural hollow, open towards the sea, occupies a large portion of the interior of the dun.

At the base of the rocks on the north-west side of the fort are the foundations of a number of stone structures, one being circular with an internal diameter of about 9 feet.

Skye viii. 31 August 1915.

547. Dun Connavern, Culnaknock.—This dun occupies the whole summit of an oval, rocky knoll on the rough plateau which rises to a height of some 400 feet above sea-level, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile west-south-west of the school between Culnaknock and Valtos. On the east side the knoll rises barely 15 feet in height, but on the west it is rather higher and the rocks are steeper. The dun has been defended by a stone wall built on the edge of the hillock, and measures externally some 79 feet from north-west to south-east and about 42 feet across. On the eastern flank a considerable length of the outer face of the wall remains standing about 3 feet

in height; though quite broken down along the western flank, which is more rugged and irregular, its position is indicated at several places, and at the south end three large blocks are left in their original places.

The position of the entrance is doubtful, but a row of stones at the southern end may indicate the line of its western wall.

Along the highest part of the interior of the dun, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet within the wall on the eastern flank, there is a bank of stones and earth simulating an inner defence, but as the space enclosed by the outer walls is so narrow, it is doubtful if this can have been a wall.

On the plateau below the rocks on the west of the dun there is a number of indefinite foundations of stone buildings.

Skye viii. 31 August 1915.

548. Dun Hasan, Culnaknock.—One of the most prominent points on the east coast of Skye is Rudha nam Brathairean ("brothers' point"), which lies about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile east of the township of Culnaknock. It is a low flat peninsula connected with the high cliff on the mainland by a narrow ridge rising to a sharp crest which is traversable only at considerable risk. Blocking the outer end of this ridge is a flat-topped rock with precipitous sides, rising about 100 feet from the sea and about 50 feet above the flat, grassy plateau between it and the extreme point of the promontory. The summit of this rock is occupied by Dun Hasan, and access to it is obtained by scrambling up a very steep zig-zag path on the south-west side. The summit plateau is of irregular shape and measures about 88 feet in length from north-west to south-east and 40 feet in breadth. Across the south-western and accessible side are the remains of a straight, well-built drystone wall erected at a distance varying from a few inches to about 4 feet from the edge of the rock. The entrance through this wall is broken down, but for a distance of about 18 feet to the north-west the outer face shows a height of some 2 feet 6 inches, and the extension to the south-east is clearly defined, though covered with vegetation. Round the remaining part of the circumference of the dun there is a parapet of earth and a few stones 6 feet in width and 3 feet in height.

Skye xii. 31 August 1915.

549. Dun Hollan, Connista, Kilmaluag.—At the eastern extremity of the township of Connista, on a slight rocky eminence rising some 70 feet from the left bank of the Kilmaluag River, and about 10 feet above the rising ground to west, at an elevation of 200 feet above sea-level, are the fragmentary remains of Dun Hollan. Oval on plan, the longer axis running north-north-west and south-south-east, it measures internally 36 feet in length and 23 feet in breadth. All that remains of the enclosing wall is a mound of stone rising 2 feet above the interior. The entrance is not discernible.

Skye iv (unnoted). 28 May 1914.

CAIRNS.

550. Long Cairn, Carn Liath.—About 1 mile west of the township of Balgown, at an elevation of over 100 feet above sea-level, on the summit of the ridge between Loch Snizort on the west and Loch Chaluim Chille, now drained, is a much dilapidated cairn of stones known as Carn Liath. It seems to have been a long cairn, about 187 feet in length, the main axis running almost due north and south. The southern extension of the cairn is indicated by a line of large boulders on the eastern flank extending for some 134 feet. The remaining portion of the structure, lying to the north of a drystone wall which intersects, measures some 53 feet in length and rises to a height of about 14 feet. At the northern end it is 90 feet broad and gradually diminishes to a breadth of 75 feet at the intersecting dyke. Near the edge of the mound across the northern end and along the flanks there protrude large blocks of stone set on end a few feet apart. In the medial line of the cairn immediately to the south of the dyke is a large slab 6½ feet in length, 5 feet in breadth, and 1 foot 2 inches in thickness.

Skye vi. 26 May 1914.

551. Cairns, Bornaskitaig.—On the summit of the headland Ru Bornaskitaig, at an elevation of about 100 feet above sea-level, is a denuded stone cairn, circular in shape and measuring 18 feet in diameter and 1 foot 6 inches

in height. Some 12 feet and 27 feet to the east are faint indications of other two small cairns.

Skye iii (unnoted). 26 May 1914.

552. Cairn, Carn Ban, Garrafad.—At an elevation of barely 100 feet above sea-level, some 400 yards east of Staffin Lodge and 200 yards from the southern shore of Staffin Bay, are the remains of Carn Ban, a large circular cairn measuring 52 feet in diameter. The cairn is almost levelled to the ground, the circumference being outlined by a ring of large stones set on edge.

Skye vii (unnoted). 27 May 1914.

HUT CIRCLES.

553. Hut Circle.—Within a few feet of the south side of the road from Uig to Staffin, about 1¾ miles north by east of the former place as the crow flies, at an elevation of 500 feet above sea-level, on a grassy slope, is a hut circle measuring 17 feet in diameter, surrounded by a bank 6 feet broad and 1 foot in height.

Skye vii (unnoted). 29 May 1914.

554. Hut Circle, Culnaknock.—Some 30 yards from the right bank of Lonfearn Burn, and about 250 yards north-east of the bridge which crosses it about ¼ mile south of Culnaknock, is a hut circle measuring 12 feet in diameter internally, with a wall of stone 3 feet wide and rising from 6 inches to 1 foot 6 inches above ground.

Skye xii (unnoted). 31 August 1915

MISCELLANEOUS.

555. Tom na h-Uraich, Kilmaluag.—About 1 mile east of Kilmaluag bridge and some 50 yards north of the road, on a slope rising gently towards a high cliff on the sea-shore 200 yards distant, is a mound composed of stone and earth. It is oval in outline, the main axis being almost north and south, and measures 30 feet in length, 25 feet in breadth, and 5 feet in height.

Skye iv. 28 May 1914.

556. Earth-house, Tigh Talamhain, Glen Sneosdal.—About 5¼ miles north-north-east

of Uig, $1\frac{1}{8}$ miles east by south of Kilmuir Manse, and $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of the deserted farm of Lachasay, at an elevation of barely 300 feet above sea-level, on the slight rise above the flat on the right bank of Abhuinn Sneosdal, and some 25 yards distant from the stream, is an earth-house known as Tigh Talamhain.

The structure was discovered and partly destroyed many years ago when part of the entrance passage was removed and a hole was made in the roof. It consists of a chamber of drystone building converging inwardly towards the roof so as to form a beehive-shaped chamber, measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter 3 feet from the apex, which is entered through a walled and lintelled passage running almost due east. Of the passage a length of 9 feet 10 inches still remains. The outer part of the passage, which has been removed, is indicated by a hollow in the ground, traceable outwards for some 24 feet, but, as the level of the under side of the outer lintel runs out on to the surface of the slope some 12 feet 6 inches from the existing building, the passage was perhaps a little more than 22 feet in length when complete. It measures 2 feet 8 inches in width where it enters the chamber, and about 3 feet nearer the orifice. There has probably been a slight rise inwardly in the floor of the tunnel as there is a rise of 2 feet on the tops of the existing lintels. About 5 feet from the inner end one of the lintels is placed 6 inches lower than the others, perhaps forming a check for a door. On the left side of the passage is a recess-like cavity with a lintel above. The top of the outer lintel of the passage as it now exists is 5 feet 6 inches above the bank of the stream.

One of the cover stones of the circular chamber, which must have had a very slight covering of soil, has been removed and gives access to the house, and as the whole structure is partly filled with soil the heights of the different parts cannot be at present ascertained.

Immediately to the north of what was the apparent entrance to the earth-house are slight indications of a hut circle, oval in shape, measuring 13 feet in length by 10 feet in breadth, with the entrance towards the underground building.

Skye iv (unnoted). 28 May 1914.

SITES.

557. St Columba's Chapel on Island of Fladda-Chuain.

Skye i. Cf. Martin, p. 166.

558. Chapel dedicated to St Columba on Eilean Trodday.—Skye ii (unnoted).

559. Chapel (site of), Kilmuir.—Marked on 6" O.S.M., a short distance south-east of churchyard. Skye vi.

560. Chapel at Kilvaxter.—Skye iii (unnoted).

561. Ruins of Church at Kilbride Point, west of Totscore.—Skye vi (unnoted).

562. Chapel, Kilmaruy, opposite Sartil. Skye vii (unnoted).

563. Chapel to St Martin at Kilmartin. Skye vii (unnoted).

564. Dun Bornaskitaig.—To the north-west of the township of Bornaskitaig, and about 100 yards from the western side of the promontory terminating in Ru Bornaskitaig, is a flat-topped, rocky eminence rising nearly 100 feet above sea-level and 20 feet above the immediate surroundings, on the summit of which are slight indications of a circular structure of stone measuring about 57 feet in diameter externally. On the north side there are traces of an entrance 3 feet 6 inches in width. Within this building a construction of late date, rectangular on plan, has been erected, obliterating most of the original structure.

Skye iii (unnoted). 26 May 1914.

565. Dun Smail, Clachan.—At Clachan, about 500 yards south-west of the Free Church of Staffin, at an elevation of 200 feet above sea-level, is a rocky knoll rising some 25 feet above the surrounding ground and tailing away towards the west. The summit is the site of Dun Smail, of which the only remains now visible are the scanty fragments of a wall on the western flank.

Skye vii. 27 May 1914.

566. Dun Vannerain, Kilmaluag.—This site, about 1 mile north of Solitote, at an elevation of 200 feet above sea-level, is indicated by an

irregular heap of stones on which are the ruins of a number of old houses.

Skye iv (unnoted). 28 May 1914.

567. **Dun Tavison on coast, south of Kilmartin.**—Martin's Map. Skye viii (unnoted).

568. **Dun David, now the site of the ruins of Duntulm Castle.**—The name is also applied to the site of Dunvegan Castle. Martin names a Dun David, but does not specify it further.

Skye iv (unnoted).

569. **Cairns, near Farmhouse of Lonfearn at Totagan na Druidhean.**—Skye xii (unnoted).

PARISH OF PORTREE.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

570. **Bile Chapel, near Portree.**—About $\frac{5}{8}$ mile north-east of the mouth of Portree harbour, on a grassy slope hemmed in by high cliffs some 200 yards from the shore, are the remains of a small church surrounded by a burying ground occasionally used up till recent times. The building, which is of stone and shell lime and oblong on plan, runs east-north-east and west-south-west, and measures internally 26 feet 9 inches long and 13 feet 6 inches broad, the wall being 2 feet 9 inches thick and rising to a height of from 4 to 5 feet at the ends and from 2 to 3 feet on the sides. The door seems to have been near the west end of the south-eastern wall.

Skye xxiv. 18 May 1914.

571. **Chapel, Eilean Chaluim-Chille.**—On a small tidal island in the upper part of Portree Bay are the grass-grown foundations of a church bearing the name of St Columba. It is a simple oblong chamber 26 feet long by 16 feet wide, the walls being roughly 2 feet 7 inches at the sides and 3 feet 6 inches at the gable ends. This portion of the bay used to be known as Loch Chaluimchille.

Skye xxx. 31 May 1921.

572. **An Teampull, Doire na Guaile, Island of Rona.**—To the south of the township of Doire na Guaile in a small hollow surrounded by rocks overlooking Caol Rona, the narrow strait

separating the islands of Raasay and Rona, about 350 yards north-west of the extreme southern end of the latter island, and about 100 feet above sea-level, is a small oblong roofless church, An Teampull, built of stone and shell lime, with a burying ground surrounding it. The building is orientated almost north-west and south-east, and measures 19 feet 3 inches in length and 8 feet 10 inches in breadth internally, the walls being 20 inches thick. The north-eastern wall is complete, but the opposite wall is slightly broken down at the eastern end; they measure about 5 feet 6 inches in height on the inside. The gables are also much better preserved than usual, only the skew stones on the west side of both having fallen out; the gables measure about 12 feet in height. The door is in the centre of the north-western gable, and measures 4 feet 8 inches in height and 2 feet 3 inches in width, being splayed internally to a width of 3 feet 6 inches. Some 4 inches from the inside of the doorway there is a check for the door of 5½ inches on either side. A window 1 foot 3 inches in height by 6 inches in breadth on the exterior, but increasing to 1 foot 8 inches in height and 1 foot 6 inches in breadth inside, is built 2 feet 11 inches above the doorway outside. Between the door and the window on the inside, and 1 foot 4 inches below the latter, is a recess 15 inches high, 11 inches broad, and 7 inches deep. In the south-east gable is a similar narrow window built 3 feet from the ground. It measures externally 1 foot 3 inches in height and 5 inches in breadth, splaying to a height of 2 feet 3 inches and a breadth of 1 foot 10½ inches in the interior. In the south-western wall, 3 feet 8 inches from the eastern end, is another window of similar character much broken down. Built 2 feet 4 inches from the ground it shows a width of 1 foot 8 inches on the inside, and seems to have been 9 inches wide on the outside. About the wall level in the south-eastern gable there is a scarcement some 5 inches broad, and in the north-western gable there is a similar scarcement at the level of the top of the door lintel and a second scarcement 3 inches wide 4 feet 4 inches higher up.

A modern wall encloses a small burying ground at the north-west end of the chapel.

Skye xix. 19 May 1914.

573. *St Maol-luag's Chapel, Raasay.*—The ruins of this chapel are situated at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level in a small burial ground about 100 yards north-east of Raasay House. Both gables and the larger portion of the south wall remain to their original height, but the north wall is now considerably broken down. The ruin has a number of interesting features, details of which are to some extent obscured by obvious changes of ground level, both in the internal and external surroundings. The chapel is roofless and has been orientated north-west and south-east, and it measures externally 52 feet long, $24\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide at the north-west gable and 21 feet wide at the south-east gable. The walls are 3 feet thick, and there is evidence, especially on the south wall, of structural alterations at different periods. The original door, 2 feet 8 inches wide, with chamfered jambs and lintel, was placed $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the west end of the south wall, but owing to the configuration of the ground it now shows only to a height of 3 feet 4 inches, and it appears to have been built up and substituted by another doorway, traces of which can still be detected in the dilapidated wall on the north. Immediately above the original doorway an entrance to a gallery, probably reached by an outside wooden stair, has been inserted, but this entrance has also been subsequently built up and the interior of the chapel afterwards roughly plastered. On the same wall, but towards the east end, there are a round-headed window, splayed internally, and indications of a second window of like construction in a dilapidated portion adjoining the eastern gable. A similar window 3 feet 5 inches in height and $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide occurs on the south-east gable, and this window is chamfered on the outside and splayed internally. There has apparently been another window in the east end of the north wall, but little remains to give any idea of its character. The western gable has been lit by three apertures, one of which is not now apparent externally. The two others are of lancet form, with the heads cut out of one stone. These lancet windows are chamfered on the outside and all three are splayed internally. The western gable is intaken 10 inches to 1 foot at $10\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the present interior level, and remaining joist holes indicate that there was

a gallery at this end. Similar joist holes in the north and south walls at 9 feet from the east gable possibly indicate provision for a screen. Midway in the interior between the two south wall windows the upper portion of a tomb recess shows to a height of 2 feet above the existing internal level.

CROSS-SLAB IN BURIAL GROUND.—Lying loose at the foot of a grave in the burial ground is a small cross-slab of red sandstone measuring $15\frac{1}{2}$ by $6\frac{1}{4}$ by $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches. It bears on the rounded and somewhat mutilated upper portion the design, in low relief, of a cross-head with semi-circular hollow angles and arms of equal length connected at their extremities by a ring or glory.

See Hist. Note, No. 616.

Skye xxxv. 24 March 1926.

CASTLE.

574. *Brochel Castle.*—This eyrie-like structure occupies the whole of the summit of an isolated mass of agglomerate (Torridon grit and sandstone), conspicuously placed in a small crescentic bay that breaks the line of precipitous cliffs forming the northern part of the east coast of the island of Raasay. A plantation of birch trees straggles round the face of the brae behind and follows the curve of the bay to the sea face on either side. To the north the view is closed by the rising ground, but there is a clear outlook to the Ross-shire coast in front and down the Inner Sound.

Rising from a slight slope the pinnacle of rock all round stands about 50 feet above the terrain, though the summit is in two levels, that on the east side being 20 feet above the other. On both levels there are buildings. (Fig. 252.)

The entrance is on the east face and is approached up a rather steep, narrow ridge. On the right the bare rock rises to the higher level; on the left the lower level carries the corner of the building on this side. The approach is thus narrowed, and there is evidence that originally there was some sort of over-building outside the present doorway—the walling on both sides was apparently continued outwards with a chamber above, providing a passage roofed with slabs, of which only the



FIG. 250—From West.



FIG. 251—From North-West.



FIG. 252—From South-West.

BROCHEL CASTLE (No. 574).

inner end now exists. Another chamber would seem to have been contrived over this surviving portion of the lintelled passage, and beyond this on the level a narrow open way continues between the rocky sides, which have been faced with stone, for 11 feet or so. In this alley are several recesses, large and small. The entrance as a whole is in a tumble-down condition; much of the building, having been but a skin on the rock face on either side, has disappeared.

remains, and, as laid out, this forms almost a square of 11 feet, but at the north corner what has been the stair projects inwards, while the greater part of the rest of the north-east face is occupied by a 5-feet recess with a slab lintel, the back of which is bare rock. In the north-western wall, on the upper floor, is a narrow window opening or slit splayed inwards, one jamb of which is a single stone, while the other is built up of small stones. Another similar slit in the south-west corner completes the

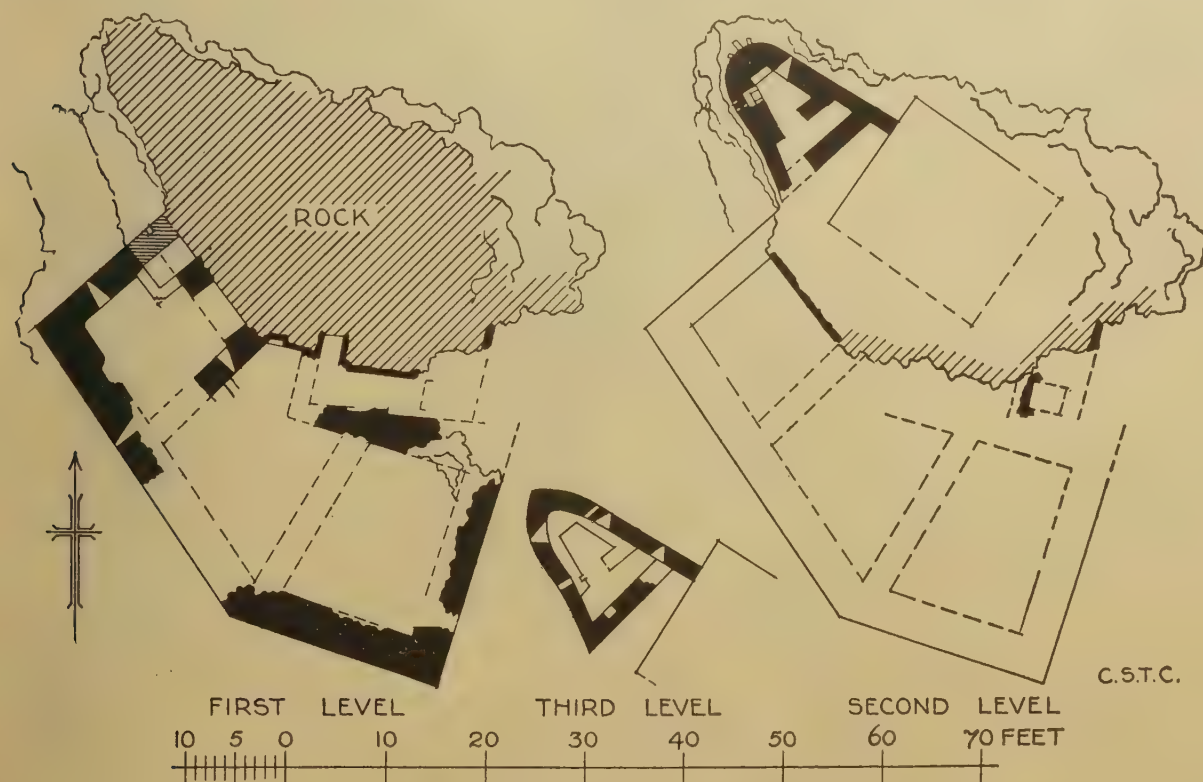


FIG. 253—Brochel Castle (No. 574).

The entrance corridor opens upon the middle one of three apartments, which occupy the lower level and are angled upon plan to follow the ground. The walls of this middle apartment have almost wholly disappeared. On the short north-eastern face the wall is again but a facing on the rock, and then only as high as where the rock overhangs (see Fig. 253). At the north corner are recesses. The apartment to the east has been about 17 by 11 to 12 feet, but only one wall and portions of other two are left. Of the western apartment more

exceedingly meagre lighting of this apartment, which, like the others, must have had a room over. (Figs. 250, 251.)

The higher level can now be reached only by scrambling up, and of the battlemented tower of two stories which, according to Wm. Daniell's view of 1819, occupied the great part of it, only some indications of the foundations remain. But on the spur of rock projecting to the north-west still stands the small triangular building which adjoined the tower, and which on the lower floor contains a couple of narrow

through apartments of indeterminate purpose, while the upper floor is a single chamber. In the inner of the lower rooms on the western wall is a garderobe with an external chute. The northern end of the wall of this structure butted against the tower wall. This wing, too, had an upper floor lighted by three slits, of which one has been built up, while the lower floor has been lighted by a single slit in the north-east wall. At the apex of the triangle the

The building is in roughly coursed blocks of sandstone and basalt of all shapes and sizes, embedded in plentiful mortar of shell lime and gravel, and is in a very bad state. The walls are nowhere more than 4 feet thick. It may be noted that, in the Daniell picture, what looks like an approach and entrance to the right on the lower level cannot have been intended to suggest such, as there is no indication of anything of the kind, and, where a door might be

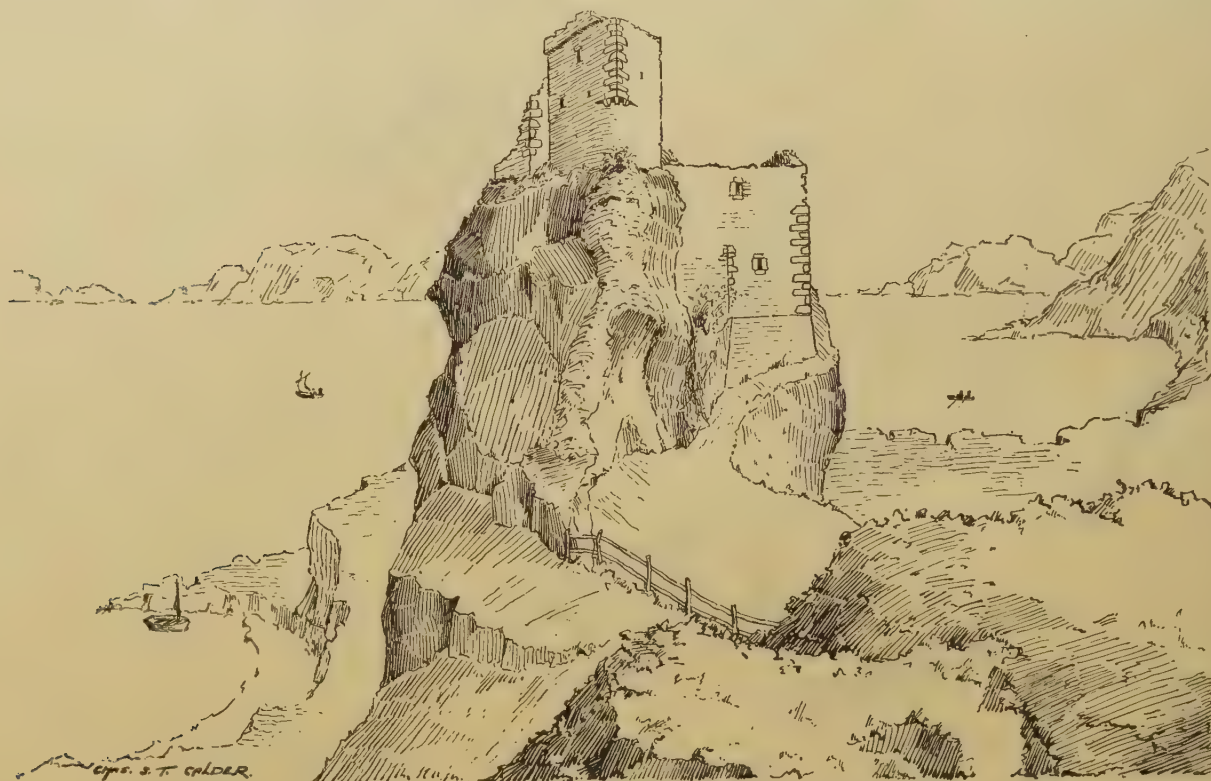


FIG. 254—Brochel Castle (No. 574), re-drawn from Daniell's view of 1819.

upper part of the corner is built out on corbels to overhang the tower. About 12 feet high of building remains, with, on one face, some indication of the parapet in slight projection on a continuous corbel course. On the south-western face of the lower building are six of the quarter-round corbels that supported the parapet, part of the lower courses of which is in position near the corner. These are of very small stones, and there is no sign of an embrasure, but according to the 1819 view, the embrasures on the tower, and so no doubt here also, were few—two on a face—and at a rather higher level than the fragment which remains.

expected to exist, there is really a small chute from the interior.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—Dean Monro (1549) gives two castles to Raasay, "the castle of Killmoroch (cf. No. 592) and the castle of Brolokit, with twa fair orchards at the saids twa castells." The *Description of the Isles* (1577-95) in Skene says that Macleod of Raasay "hes ane strange little castell in this Ile, biggit on the heid of ane heich craig, and is callit Prokill." Martin (1695) describes it as "an artificial fort, three stories high . . . called Castle Vreokle."

Skye xxv. 17 June 1921.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(BROCHS.)

575. **Dun Borodale, Raasay.**—On a plateau on an eminence situated on the eastern fringe of Borodale Wood, about $\frac{1}{4}$ of a mile west of the Free Church Manse, is an elliptical-shaped broch-like structure called "Dun Voradel." The construction, which occupies a position of

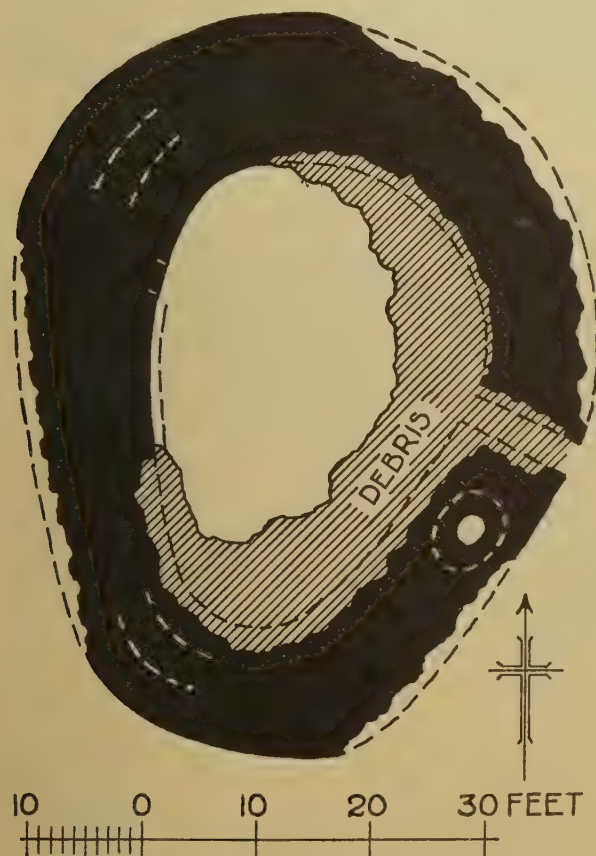


FIG. 255—Dun Borodale, Raasay (No. 575).

natural strength at an elevation of nearly 300 feet above sea-level, is composed of large stones with considerable infilling of smaller material, and lies with its main axis about 30 degrees east of magnetic north. The whole of the eastern segment is so much broken down and the interior of the structure so much filled with debris that almost all details of ground level features are obscured. There are distinct traces of a passage 3 feet wide at its outer extremity on the east, and of a cell in the thickness of the wall at $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet south of the

passage, but no precise measurements of the extent or size of these features could be secured. The thickness of the walling varies from approximately 11 feet at the east to 14 feet at the north-west, and the outer face shows a very slight true batter and still remains to a height of $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the south-east and south-west. At two points, on the north-west and south-west, there are indications of a gallery above the level of a scarcement, averaging 15 inches in width and only about 18 inches above the debris. This scarcement extends along the inner face of the walling of the whole western segment. A small definite portion of the inner face of the gallery wall is apparent at the south-west, but the indications of a like feature at the north-west are not so pronounced. Immediately above the scarcement in the western section is a small crudely lintelled recess of almost 3 feet in width which may possibly indicate an entrance to a gallery, and a little to the north of this recess the face of the interior wall remains to a height of $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

Skye xxxv. 24 March 1926.

(GALLERIED DUN.)

576. **Dun, Dunan an Aisilidh, Braes.**—Near the northern extremity of the peninsula ter-

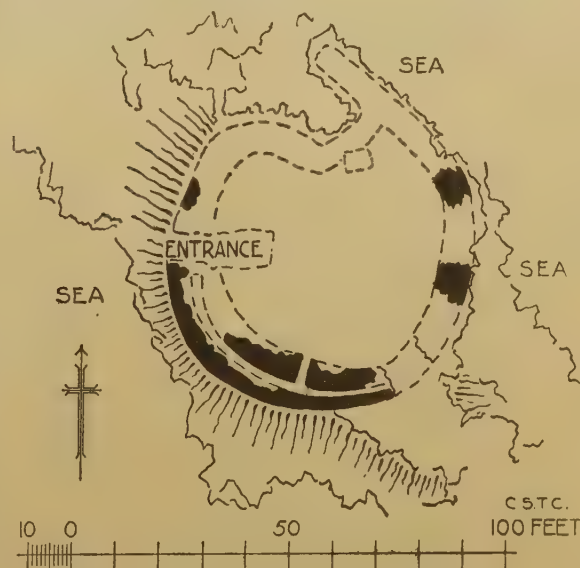


FIG. 256—Dun, Dunan an Aisilidh (No. 576).

minating in the point Ardvorrinish, near Braes, on the east side of the island of Skye,

at the Narrows of Raasay, is an elevated flat-topped rock rising some 50 feet above the sea. On the east side is a precipice rising straight from the water. On the west, though the rocks are precipitous in places, they are of less height and the rise is more gradual, and on the south a steep-sided dry, rocky gully, above which the rock rises some 15 feet, separates it from the mainland. This rocky height is entirely occupied by the scanty remains of Dunan an Aisilidh, a fort of interesting type. While small sections of the outer foundation course and some irregular mounds of debris are all that remain on the east and north, enough of the wall remains on the south-west quadrant to indicate its dimensions and character. The dun measures internally 51 feet from east to west, and averages 50 feet from north to south, and the enclosing wall, which in general has been solid and about 7 feet thick, gradually increases to 12 feet on the south-west, where it contains a gallery now almost filled with stones. The wall here shows some 3 to 4 feet of the outer face in position, while the inner portion rises about 4 feet above it. The entrance to the gallery from the enceinte measures 2 feet 6 inches in width, and the sides still maintain a height of about 2 feet 6 inches, while the outer lintel is still in position. It penetrates the wall for a distance of 6 feet 7 inches, and the gallery then branches off towards both east and west. The eastern end extends at least 18 feet in the curve of the wall, and averages 1 foot 9 inches in width, narrowing slightly as the wall gets thinner. At the doorway the inner wall, as already stated, is 6 feet 7 inches thick, and the outer 3 feet 8 inches. At the eastern end the inner wall is 3 feet 10 inches and the outer wall 1 foot 10 inches in thickness. The outermost face of the gallery extension westwards is entirely broken down, but the inside face remaining to a height of 3 feet 6 inches for a good length can be traced definitely for a distance of some 20 feet. Seemingly the termination is about 16 feet farther on. The main entrance to the dun appears to have been in the western arc immediately to the north of the gallery end, as a hollow obscured by fallen stones traverses the wall at this part,* and is continued some 11 feet into the enceinte, the southern side of this passage being flanked by what seems to be

the remains of a stone wall about 2 feet high in parts. There are faint indications of a wall on the northern side also. There is no trace of an entrance at the south-eastern or landward side of the dun. Outside the supposed entrance on the west the ground is less rough than at the other parts of the surroundings, and instead of being rocky falls in a gradual grass-covered descent.

In the northern sector of the dun there is a hollow 5 feet in length and 3 feet 9 inches in breadth lined with stones, and the wall here follows the irregularities of the cliff edge.

Skye xxxv. 31 May 1921.

(DUNS.)

577. Dun Gerashader, near Portree.—Between a bend in the River Chracaig and Lon a Ghearraidh, a small feeder on its left bank, about 1 mile north-north-east of Portree, is a flat-topped ridge with sides and ends rocky and in places precipitous. It runs almost due north and south, and rises about 40 feet above the immediate surrounding rough country, and its elevation is about 300 feet above sea-level. The northern and least accessible half of the ridge is occupied by the ruins of Dun Gerashader, once a fort of great strength (Fig. 257). The enceinte, oval in shape, measures internally 168 feet from north-north-west to south-south-east, and 100 feet at its widest from east-north-east to west-south-west, and has been surrounded by a well-built stone wall. This wall has been erected on the edge of the ridge along the east and west flanks and round the northern end, but at the southern end of the enclosure it is carried transversely across the ridge, about its highest point and near the middle of its length, as a more massive structure (Fig. 259), measuring 14 feet in thickness and rising about 15 feet above the level of the enceinte. The mass of tumbled stones at the base of the inner side of this wall is 10 feet wide and 9 feet high, and above this the face exhibits fine drystone building. Much of the walling is almost obliterated, but at several places the foundations can be traced, showing a width varying from 7 feet on the eastern flank to 11 feet on the western. Outside the southern wall are the remains of lines



FIG. 257—View from South-West.

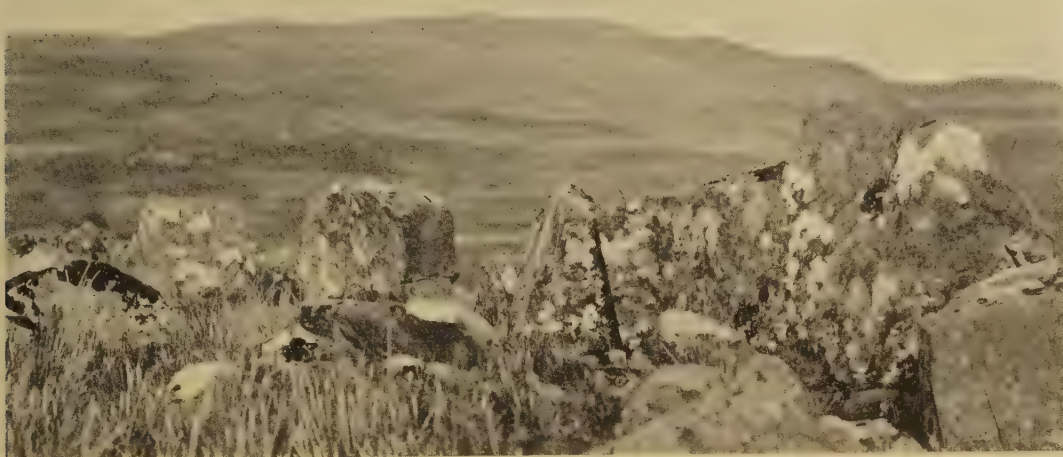


FIG. 258—Boulder Defence.



FIG. 259—Walling.

DUN GERASHADER (No. 577).

To face p. 182.

of obstructions (Fig. 258), in rows of large boulders, up to 5 feet in length, set on edge across the ridge, the distance between the outer faces of the defences in this direction measured from the interior being about 32 feet, 33 feet, and 23 feet respectively. While the two outer lines are carried completely across the summit of the ridge, a third is carried only as far as a rocky bluff on the eastern side of the ridge. Immediately behind this line at its south-western angle is an enclosure 28 feet in length and 13 feet in

Within the fort are the foundations of a number of small stone-walled structures, the majority of them now difficult to trace. As to their origin and purpose nothing definite can be said. Against the north-eastern curve of this defence are the foundations of a semicircular enclosure of about 34 feet diameter internally, with a wall 3 feet 6 inches in thickness, and along the western wall are indications of a somewhat similar building.

Skye xxiv (Dun Gernshader). 27 May 1921.

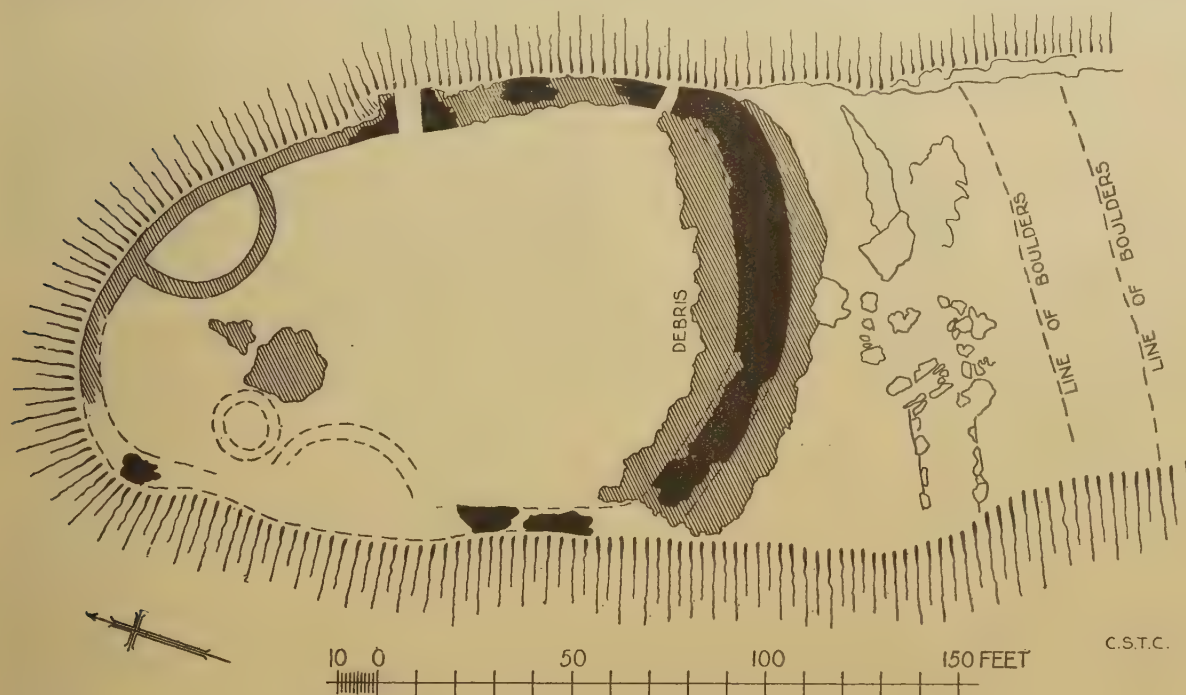


FIG. 260—Dun Gerashader (No. 577).

breadth. There has also been a small oval structure 10 feet long by 7 feet broad on the inside of the second wall near its east end. The ridge extends about 50 yards southwards beyond the outer line of defence.

The entrance to the dun is near the middle of the eastern flank, where the foundations of a gateway 6 feet 8 inches wide are to be seen. The approach is difficult as this part of the ridge is rocky, but a narrow ledge extending towards the south may have formed the roadway. Between the entrance and the southern end of the enceinte there has been an opening, the northern jamb remaining in position.

578. Dun Torvaig, near Portree.—On the rough northern slope of Ben Chracaig, some $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-east of Portree pier, at an elevation of 400 feet above sea-level, is Dun Torvaig, which occupies a rocky eminence rising about 35 feet above the surroundings, and only approachable over an ascending ridge from the south-west. The dun is oval on plan, with its main axis running almost north-west and south-east, along which it measures internally about 65 feet, while it is 48 feet in breadth. It has been defended by a stone wall encircling the summit of the ridge, with two outer walls across the approaching slope to the north-

west measuring from outer faces 27 feet and 10 feet apart respectively. The walls are very much dilapidated, but at the north-west end of the enceinte, where the wall has been strongest, the mass of stones remaining covers a width of 30 feet and rises about 6 feet in height; while a section of the outer face, about 9 feet in length and 3 feet in height, is still in position. The two outer walls seem to have been about 3 feet 6 inches thick. While both ends of the first wall and the southern end of the second



FIG. 261—Dun Torvaig (No. 578).

give on to the rocky scarp on each side of the ridge, the north-eastern end of the latter returns along the edge of the ridge as far as the main wall. The entrance has been from the south-west, and it passes through the two outer walls near the southern side of the ridge, being walled on both sides between these defences and showing a width of about 3 feet 9 inches. Where it enters the inner defence is not apparent owing to the dilapidated condition of the wall.

Skye xxiv. 29 May 1921.

CAIRNS.

579. Cairns, Suisnish, Raasay.—Immediately to the east of the tramway to the iron mines on the island of Raasay, about 500 yards north-

east of the pier at Suisnish, on a heather-covered, gently sloping hillside at an elevation of 200 feet above sea-level, is a group of four small stone cairns buried in peat. The largest cairn, which lies 100 feet from the tramway, is 18 feet in diameter and 3 feet in height; 11 yards to the south-east is the smallest, 12 feet in diameter and about 2 feet in height; 30 yards to the east-north-east is the third, 14 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height, and about the same distance to the north is the fourth, measuring 16 feet in diameter and 2 feet in height. As this last cairn encroaches on the line of the tramway a narrow trench has been cut through it near the edge, showing the structure of the mound. It is formed entirely of stones without any admixture of soil, and is covered with a growth of peat 1 foot thick.

About 100 yards to the east, beyond a slight ridge, on both sides of a hollow, is a larger group of similar cairns. At least ten can be counted, several of them occurring in pairs about 9 feet apart. They measure from 14 to 16 feet in diameter and from 2 to 2½ feet in height.

Skye xxxv (unnoted). 22 May 1914.

MISCELLANEOUS.

580. Storab's Grave, Brae, Island of Raasay.—On the right bank of Allt a Bhraghaid at Brae, about 30 yards from the east side of the road some 3½ miles north of Raasay House, is a slight plateau in the angle formed by the burn and a small feeder from the south, on which is a slight, circular stony mound 10 feet in diameter and about 1 foot in height, with several stones set curb-like round the edge. This is known as Storab's Grave, and seems to be a denuded small cairn.

Skye xxx. 22 May 1914.

581. Cross on Rock, Old Pier, Island of Raasay.—On a sloping rock facing the south-east, immediately to the west of a shed on the south side of the old pier at Raasay and about 9 feet above high-water mark, is an incised cross 3 feet 7 inches in length. The head of the cross is formed by four intersecting curves within a square, the sides of which are 20 inches in length, and the shaft, 23 inches in

length and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth for the greater part of its length, is composed of a medial line between two marginal lines. These outer lines are 5 inches apart at the top of the shaft and curve inwardly to a width of 3 inches, then outwards to a width of 6 inches at a distance of 7 inches from the head, after which they contract again to a width of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches and finally converge at the base.

See *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, XLI., p. 435.

Skye xxxv. 22 May 1914.

582. Symbol Stone near Raasay House.—On the summit of a rockery some 15 feet from the east side of the road 200 yards north-north-west of Raasay House is a dressed slab of stone 4 feet 8 inches long, 1 foot 9 inches broad, and 6 inches thick, bearing on the upper part of one face a cross of the same type as the example at the pier (No. 581) with the tuning fork and crescent with divergent floriated rod symbols below. This stone originally stood near the pier. (Fig. 265.)

See *Proc. Soc. Ant. Soc.*, Vol. XLI., p. 435.

Skye xxxv. 22 May 1914.

SITES.

583. Chapel and Burying Ground, named from St Talorgen, on ploughed field on Home Farm behind Kiltaraglen. No remains of building to be seen.

Skye xxiii (unnoted).

584. Dun Vlarveg, near mouth of Ollach River. Skye xxxv (unnoted).

585. Dun Dugan. Skye xxiii.

586. Earth-house, at Udairn under Ben Tianavaig at entrance to Portree Harbour. Skye xxx (unnoted).

587. Earth-house, at Peinafeiler, near Portree, partly opened and filled up a few years ago. Skye xxx (unnoted).

588. Earth-house, at Camastianavaig, reported to have been opened up and filled some years ago.

Skye xxx (unnoted).

589. Earth-house, near banks of Glenmore River. Skye xxix (unnoted).

590. Earth-house, above chapel on ploughed field below Torvaig, near Beal Point. Skye xxiv (unnoted).

591. Earth-house, reported on Beal Cliff, near Portree. Skye xxiv (unnoted).

592. Castle Killmorocht or Castle of Kilmaluag, Raasay, probably was on site of present mansion house, as it appears to have been taken down in 1746. "Ruin" in antique type is marked on the map a short distance N.E. of the mansion house.

Skye xxxv.

593. Stone Cist, Eyre Point, Raasay. Skye xxxvi.

594. "Tumulus," Suisnish, Raasay.—This site is about 30 yards from the sea-shore, north-east of Suisnish. No trace of a tumulus remains. The 6-inch O.S.M. records, '*Roman Remains found A.D. 1841.*'

Skye xxxv.

PARISH OF SLEAT.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

595. Chapel, Cladh Aruig, Aird of Sleat.—In a rough and rocky hollow among the hills at Cladh Aruig, about 500 yards west of the township of Aird of Sleat, near the left bank of a small burn, are the foundations of an old church of oblong plan. It measures externally about 31 feet in length and 18 feet in breadth. The wall of stone and lime is about 3 feet thick and stands barely 2 feet in height. The building is orientated slightly north of east.

Skye lxiii. 28 May 1915.

596. Old Parish Church of Sleat, Kilmore.—What remains of this earlier parish church stands about 200 yards from the western coast of the Sound of Sleat and to the east of the main road in the village of Kilmore. It is rectangular on plan and measures 55 feet in length and 20 feet in width. The church is

now a roofless shell with the gables, $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness, still retaining their tabling, and the side walls, $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet in thickness, remaining to their original height. Joist holes in the west end indicate where a loft has been, and also that the joist ends have been bedded in sheet lead. The door, which is towards the west end of the south wall, the east and west windows and two side windows have had their rounded heads and jambs moulded. The east window, 8 feet 10 inches in height from sill to crown and $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in width, has widely splayed sconsons and pointed rear arch, but the west window is much destroyed. A stone in the west gable bears the date 1687.

TOMBSTONE IN CHURCHYARD.—In the churchyard, embedded in cement between two modern tombstones, is a rectangular slab of blue schist wanting a portion of the lower end. It measures 1 foot 5 inches in breadth, and what remains is 5 feet $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length and bears two ornamented panels on the face. The upper panel, which is about 16 inches square, contains four foliaceous designs in the angles formed by lines crossed in the form of a St Andrew's Cross. In the lower panel is a claymore with straight quillons and a spike on the top of the pommel, with a voided rondel in relief on either side of the handle and six similar designs, of which the top one only is perfect, impinging on the dexter side of the stone between the blade and the edge of the slab; on the sinister side of the blade there seems to be a design like a pair of clipping shears placed obliquely, the points turned inwards. A plain moulding runs round the edge of the stone.

Skye lvii. 7 May 1914; 24 June 1921.

597. Teampull, Ornsay, Isle Ornsay.—At the south end of Ornsay, a tidal island of considerable size on the west side of the Sound of Sleat, on a plateau some 100 yards from and 40 feet above high-water mark, and sheltered by quickly rising ground to the north, is an old burying ground in which are the scanty remains of an ancient church. Oblong on plan, it is orientated nearly east-south-east and measures $26\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length and about $13\frac{1}{2}$ feet in breadth internally. The wall, built of stone and shell lime, is reduced to a height of only 1 foot 6 inches above ground

and measures about 2 feet 3 inches in thickness. The door was probably placed near the western end of the south wall.

Skye lii (unnoted). 8 May 1914.

598. Teampull Choan, Ord.—Some 250 yards south-south-west of Ord farmhouse, on a slight rocky outcrop on the shoulder of Cnoc na Fuarachad overlooking Loch Eishort from the east, near the 100-foot contour line, are the slight remains of Teampull Choan ("Congan's Church"). The north-east corner and the greater part of the northern wall, built of stone and shell lime, measuring 2 feet 6 inches in thickness, remains to a height of 2 feet 6 inches at most above the foundation. The other walls are traceable only as grass-grown mounds, and the church, which is rectangular and orientated almost east and west, seems to have been about 26 feet in length and 18 feet in breadth externally. A grass-covered hollow to the north is still called Laggan Teampull.

FONT.—A font was discovered many years ago in or near the church, but has since been removed out of the island.

HOLY WELL, TOBAR CHOAN.—This well, a fine strong spring, bursts out at the foot of a rock immediately below the farmhouse at Ord, a few yards above the high-water mark. It lies about 300 yards north-north-west of the ruins of the church.

Skye li ("Chaon"). 6 May 1914.

CASTLES.

599. Dun Scaich.—This structure occupies the whole summit of an isolated rock at the north corner of Ob (bay) Gauscavaig on the southern shore of the mouth of Loch Eishort. The rock is wholly precipitous and rises some 30 to 40 feet above the sea, which washes its base all round save towards the mainland, from which it is cut off by a steep gully or trench about 20 feet wide and 15 or 16 feet deep hewn out of the natural rock and strewn with angular pieces of stone debris. This gully is crossed by two arched walls, 6 feet apart, enclosing a space for a wooden drawbridge, 8 feet in length, to which there has been a levelled approach from the mainland defined by building at the margins.



FIG. 262—Clach an Teampuill, Taransay (No. 116).



FIG. 263—Symbol Stone, Clach Ard (No. 640).



FIG. 264—Symbol Stone, Dunvegan Castle (No. 528).

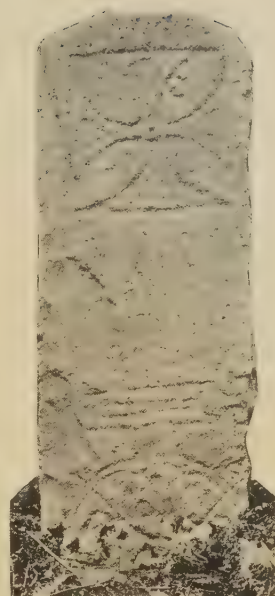


FIG. 265—Symbol Stone, Raasay House (No. 582).



FIGS. 266, 267—Cross-shaft, Kilmoruy, Borline (No. 474).



FIG. 268—Clach na h-Annait (No. 666).



FIG. 269—Clach an Trushal, Barvas, Lewis (No. 16).

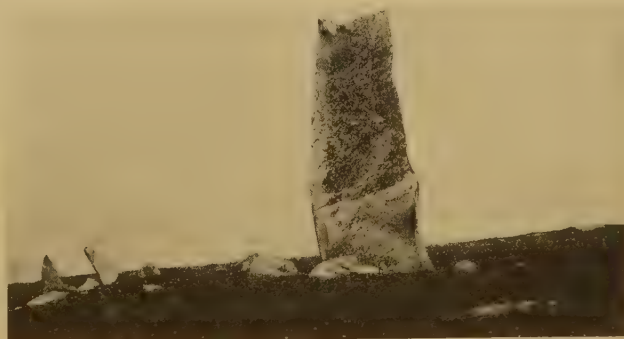


FIG. 270—Clach Mhic Leoid, Harris (No. 135).

The arches spring from a built wall on the west and the natural rock on the mainland (Fig. 272), the crowns rising to a height of 13 to 14 feet above the bottom of the trench, in which there is a considerable accumulation of stones directly beneath. At the inner extremity of the gap are the holes for the pivot upon which the drawbridge worked. Immediately beyond are the projecting checks for a door, which

highest part remaining is in the south-east corner, where it rises at most to 16 or 17 feet. Where complete the surrounding wall averages 5 feet thick. There are only fragments of interior walling and no features worth noticing. The whole internal area is grass grown. An oblong building, 38 feet by 16 feet with $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet walls, occupied the extreme western section, but its foundations are now defined only

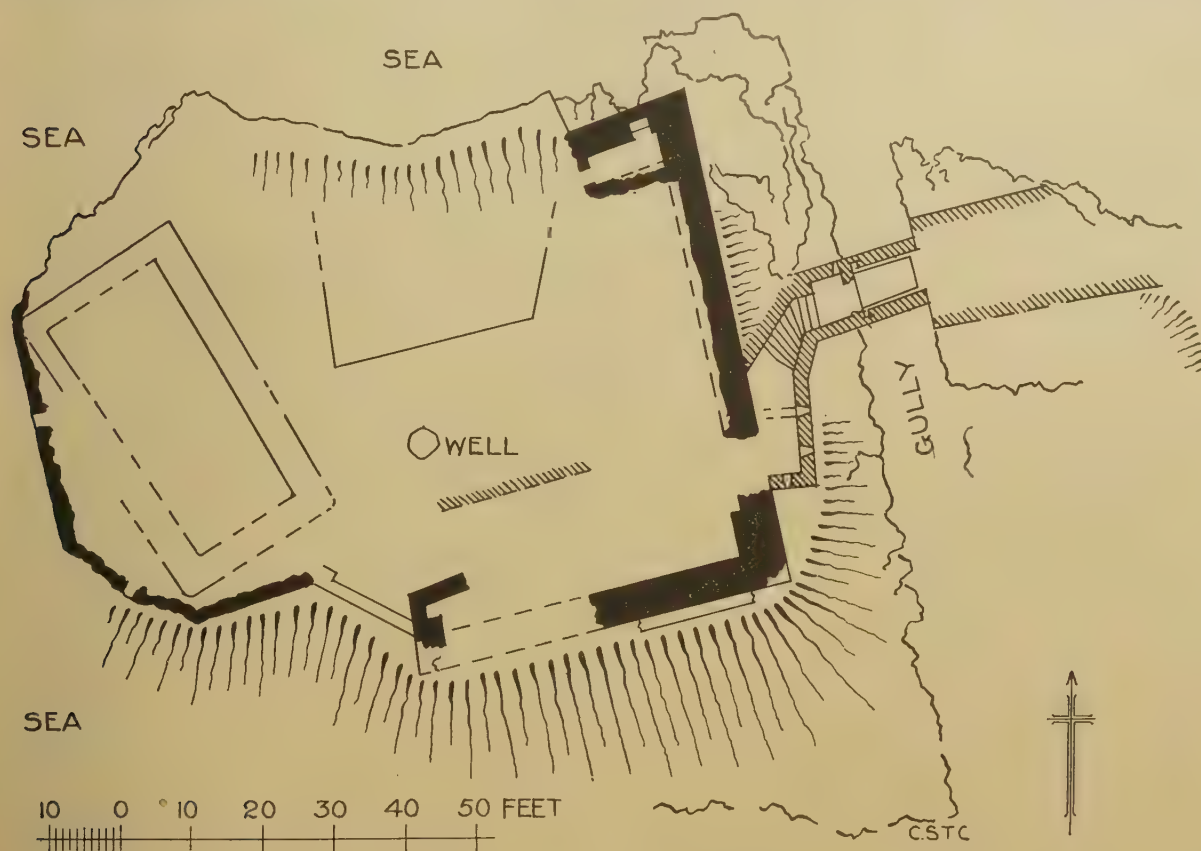


FIG. 271—Dun Scaich (No. 599).

opened to a flight of stone steps turning to the left and rising 13 to 14 feet to the top. The higher part of this stair has disappeared, the upper entrance is undefined by any features, and the side walls of the staircase are much reduced at the lower levels. (Fig. 275.)

It is clear that the whole summit of the rock measuring about 30 by 22 yards was originally enclosed by walling, of which portions varying in height still cling to the cliff edge and are shown on plan. About a third is completely gone or is buried under grassy mounds. The

by grass-grown mounds. There is another but much more indefinite area on the north side. The position of a built well now filled with debris is given on plan. There seems to have been a garderobe in the north-east corner and in the south face a sea-gate.

The building is of the usual character in the western isles, random rubble roughly coursed in large irregular stones with much infilling of smaller material and plenty lime. The work on the bridge and stair looks later than that of the main structure and is not bonded into the latter

at the place of junction. The building is in bad condition. As the mortar disintegrates under the influence of the sea air and wind, the stones at the foundations loosen and fall away, and the upper courses then collapse from their own weight.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—Properly Dun Scaich is *Dun Sgathaich*, which explains the form in a charter of 1505, *terrarium de Sleit una cum castro et fortalicio de Dunskaith*.¹ In Highland tradition it was the Dun of Scathach the martial instructress of the epic hero Cuchullin. There probably was a more ancient structure of the dun class. It was the principal seat of the Clan Huisdean or Macdonalds of Sleat. In 1515 there was a remission to Lauchlan Maclean of Dowart and Alistair Macleod of Dunvegan for assisting "in the tresonable segeing and taking of the Kingis castillis and hous of Carnebog and Dunskaith."² The place was then in the King's hands by forfeiture. Monro refers to it in 1549 as "the castill of Dunskaith, pertaining to the said Donald Gromsone," that is Donald Macdonald Gormson of Sleat. An obligation by "Donald McDonill gorme" (really the same Gormson, who died in 1573) of Jan. 1572-3 is dated at "Dounsceiche."³ Later on the Macdonalds of Sleat made Duntulm their chief residence.⁴

¹ *R.M.S.* II., No. 2873.

² *Reg. Sec. Sig.* I., No. 2616.

³ *Coll. de Reb. Alb.*, p. 11.

⁴ Cf. No. 538.

Skye li. 24 June 1921.

600. Knock Castle, Sleat.—On the northern point of Knock Bay, Sleat, which is fringed by precipitous cliffs, a little promontory is occupied by an imperfect shell of masonry, the remains of Knock Castle. The structure is easily approached from the landward and, so far as can be seen, has comprised a main block with a (later?) range of building projecting at right angles, probably forming sides of a courtyard.

The main walling, averaging 4 feet 3 inches in thickness, forms the most southerly angle on plan and stands to a height of over 30 feet. Built of rough rubble the interior face is much decayed and broken away, and the only opening discernible is a small window 9 inches wide outside and splayed to 3 feet inside at present ground level in the south-eastern wall. Traces

of foundations show these walls to have enclosed an area of about 55 feet by 26 feet wide. An entrance 3 feet 2 inches wide, in the south-western angle of the building, probably dates from the later addition, which is 49 feet long and has contained two storeys. Very little can be followed without excavation, but the buildings appear to date from the 16th century.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—This is the place known of old as Castle Camus or Camys. Monro thus speaks of it as "the castill of Camus in Sleit, pertaining to Donald Gromsone" (as in previous article). In 1614 there is a confirmation of lands to Donald Gorm of Sleat ("Slait") with the proviso that 'the castle of Camys' should always be open to the King, his lieutenants, chamberlains, etc.¹

¹ *R.M.S.*, s.a., No. 1087.

Skye lviii. 24 June 1921.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(DUNS.)

601. Dun Ban, Aird of Sleat.—Dun Ban occupies the sloping summit of a conspicuous rock rising some 50 feet from the sea-shore, about 600 yards north by east of Ard Thurinish, in the township of Aird of Sleat. It is connected with the land on the north-west by a narrow, rocky ridge, above which it rises some 25 feet in a steep, grass-covered slope, broken up by several lines of rocky outcrops, two of which seem to have been utilised as defensive lines as there are indications of building in the gaps between the rocks. At the lowest part of the ridge an outcrop has been strengthened at the north-east end by building so as to form an outer barrier. The summit of the rock, which measures some 80 feet from east to west and 44 feet from north to south, shows a sharp slope towards the sea and has been surrounded by a stone wall, which for the greater part has disappeared. On the north-west, the landward side, at the highest point of the rock, it shows a width of 6 feet and a height of 1 foot 6 inches, and the entrance seems to have been at the north-eastern end of this wall. On the steep eastern slope, 2 feet of the outer face of a well-built wall remains in position over a length of some 21 feet.

Skye lxiii. 11 September 1915.

602. Dun Geilbt, Inver Dalavil.—The ruined fort of Dun Geilbt occupies a very strong position on a spit of rock on the sea-shore at the south side of Inver Dalavil, on the west coast of Sleat, facing the mouths of Loch Slapin and Loch Eishort and the mountain masses of the Cuillins and Blaven in the background. On the south the rock is cut off from the land by a rocky chasm some 18 feet deep, and at the sides and extremity, which are washed by the sea at high tide, there are precipices about 30 feet high. The dun has been despoiled of stones to build the neighbouring township of Caradal, now deserted. The remains of the building form the southern half of a circle only 19 feet in diameter internally, and occupy the south or landward end of the rock. The wall, which shows some very small pieces of building in position on the outer face, stands 4 feet in height on the inside above a few feet of fallen debris. It is 8 feet thick and has a scarcement 6 inches wide about 2 feet below its present summit. There is no indication of an entrance in the wall, and its ends rest on the edges of the cliff. No foundations of the complementary half of the building can be traced, but the place which should have been occupied by them is covered by a growth of moss 18 inches deep in places. From the inner face of the wall to the northern edge of the rock is about 70 feet.

Skye lvii. 29 May 1915.

603. Dun Ila (O.S. Ela), Ostaig.—On the shore about 400 yards south-south-west of Ostaig House is a flat-topped rock tapering away towards the land in a gradually narrowing ridge and rising abruptly some 25 feet above the strand. The summit is occupied by the remains of Dun Ila, a small fort of quadrilateral shape measuring internally some 46 feet from north-west to south-east and 31 feet across at the widest part, which is next the sea. The remains of its wall, built on the edge of the rock, are traceable all round except on the north-eastern flank. The best preserved parts are towards the land to the north-west, where it shows a breadth of 9 feet and a height of 4 feet 6 inches above the interior, and at the western corner, where it is 3 feet 6 inches high.

Skye lvii. 11 September 1915.

604. Dun Pharuig ("Patrick") (O.S.), or Faich, Kilmore.—On the shore about 350 yards east-north-east of the parish church of Sleat, at Kilmore, is a small promontory terminating in an elevated plateau with precipitous rocky sides, which rises nearly 60 feet above the high-water mark and 14 feet above the connecting ridge on the west or landward side. On the summit, which is D-shaped, are the very faint traces of Dun Pharuig. It seems to have been surrounded by a stone wall, but this has almost entirely disappeared except on the landward side, where the outer face shows a height of about 4 feet of a drystone wall built in a straight line. The dun measures 36 feet from north-east to south-west and 34 feet from north-west to south-east. Across the neck which joins it to the land, about 36 feet from the dun, are traces of an outer wall, which may or may not be part of the original defences.

Skye lvii. 7 May 1914.

605. Dunan Choinnich, Knock.—At the extremity of the small promontory which interposes between the small bay Ob Gleannan and the Sound of Sleat, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile east by south of the ruins of Knock Castle (No. 600), are the remains of Dunan Choinnich, occupying a rocky eminence rising in a precipice 30 feet above the sea towards the south and from 4 to 12 feet above the outside level on the landward side. On the west and north-east, where the rocky outcrop is lowest, are the remains of a much dilapidated drystone wall showing a width of about 10 feet. A short section of the outer face of the wall remains in position on the east side. The entrance has probably been from the north. The internal diameter of the fort, which is an irregular oval on plan, is 40 feet from north to south and 36 feet from east to west.

Skye lviii (unnoted). 6 May 1914.

606. Dun, near Loch Baravaig, Knock. About 300 yards west of Loch Baravaig, a small inland loch, and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-east of Knock, is a rocky eminence very steep on all sides except to the south, from which it is approached over a gradually ascending ridge. It commands an extensive view over the Sound of Sleat to the north-east, east and south-west,

but to the north-west and south-east higher ground intervenes. The pear-shaped plateau on the summit, which stands from 30 feet to 50 feet higher than the adjoining rough mainland and about 250 feet above sea-level, has been defended by a massive wall of drystone building, which seems to have been about 10 feet thick and which can be traced along its whole circumference, although on the western flank it has nearly disappeared. The best preserved portion is on the eastern side, where the tumbled mass of stone rises 3 feet above the interior. The lowest course of the outer face of the wall can be traced for a distance of 30 feet along the eastern side and at various places round the southern end. At the ends, where the rocky outcrop rises above the inner level, the top of the wall reaches a height of 6 feet above the interior. The main axis runs north by west and south by east, and along this line the dun measures internally some 75 feet, while it is 34 feet across the northern and 30 feet across the southern half. The latter part, which stands about 5 feet higher than the former, seems to have been cut off from it by a curved wall, thus forming an inner defence. The fort has been approached over the ridge to the south; a narrow pathway, apparently built up on the exterior, curves round the outside of the south-western arc of the wall for a short distance, when it enters the wall and is carried for a distance of about 30 feet between the wall of the inner defence and the outer wall before it reaches the courtyard occupying the northern portion of the dun. At the south-eastern corner of the courtyard abutting on the wall is a heap of stones about 10 feet in diameter, probably the remains of a circular hut.

On a small plateau about 15 yards to the south of and 15 feet lower than the enceinte is a circular setting of boulders with an internal diameter of 6 feet, while the remains of a wall a few feet to the west of it can be traced running north and south for some 10 yards.

The interior of the dun is covered with grass, but on the summit of the drystone wall at both the north and south ends is a layer of peat 1 foot 6 inches thick.

Skye lviii. 7 May 1914.

607. Dun Ban, Camascross.—On the west side

of the Sound of Sleat, about $\frac{5}{8}$ mile south-east of the township of Camascross, is a flat-topped rock rising some 40 feet above the sea and 25 feet above the neck joining it to the mainland, the site of Dun Ban. The summit, an irregular oval, measuring about 60 feet in length along its main axis, which runs east-north-east and west-south-west, and some 30 feet in breadth, has been surrounded by a wall of drystone on the edge of the rock. It can be traced for the greater part of the circumference except at the north-east extremity. The name Dun Ban (white fort) is accounted for by the rock being partly composed of white quartz.

Skye lii. 8 May 1914.

608. Dun, Carn Breac, Ardavasar.—On the south side of the small bay lying immediately to the south of Rudha Dubh, at Ardavasar, is a rocky plateau standing some 25 to 35 feet above the sea, and connected with the land on the west side by a narrow neck. It is of very irregular outline, being almost split in two by a deep gully running in from the seaward side. Known usually as Carn Breac, but sometimes as Dun Acardinon, its defensive character is clearly indicated by a stone wall, whose grass-covered mound, some 12 feet in width and 3 feet in height, can be traced on the west side standing on the top of the scarp of the hollow outside measuring some 12 feet deep. A portion of the ground occupied by this wall has been levelled to form a potato garden, and a section of the stone wall is exposed. The remains of a wall, now 6 feet wide and 2 feet high, are seen on the edge of the cliff on the south-south-west, and there are slight traces of a similar construction to the north-east. At this place there is a small terrace lying outside and about 10 feet lower than the wall, which has also been defended by a breastwork built on the edge of the rock. The dun measures about 136 feet from east to west and 87 feet from north to south.

Skye lxiii (unnoted). 11 September 1915.

609. Dun a'Chleirich, Aird of Sleat.—The remains of Dun a'Chleirich occupy the summit of a small rocky peninsula on the sea-shore about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile east of the north-eastern extremity of the township of Aird of Sleat. It is reached by a narrow neck on the north-west



FIG. 272—The Trench and Bridge, Dun Scaich
(No. 599).



FIG. 273—Interior, Caisteal Uisdein (No. 617).



FIG. 274—Exterior, Caisteal Uisdein (No. 617).



FIG. 275—The Approach, Dun Scaich (No. 599).

or landward side, which stands about level with the fort. Towards the sea, where it is rocky but not precipitous, it reaches a height of about 50 feet above the beach. It is defended by a stone wall, now very dilapidated, built round the edge of the summit and following the sinuosities of the rock. Internally the dun measures some 52 feet from north-west to south-east and 51 feet from north-east to south-west. In places the outer face of the wall shows 3 feet in height of building in position, but generally it is very dilapidated. On the north-west, towards the land, the wall has been of considerable strength, as it now shows as a rough mound of stones, 20 feet in breadth and 3 feet in height. At other parts the wall varies from 4 feet 3 inches to 6 feet in thickness.

In the southern corner of the enclosure are the stone foundations of a roughly circular structure, about 12 feet in diameter internally, the remains of the wall being spread over a width of about 5 feet.

The entrance was probably at the eastern end of the north-western wall opposite the approaching ridge.

Skye lxiii. 28 May 1915.

CAIRNS.

610. Cairns, Inver Aulavaig.—Near the shore at Inver Aulavaig on the south side of Loch Eishort, about $\frac{7}{8}$ mile south-west of Ord, on the eastern side of the mouth of a small stream, Allt an Leth-bheinn, some 40 yards distant from and 22 feet above high-water mark, are the remains of two circular cairns of stone occupying a rough heathery ridge behind which the ground swells upward to the east. The first cairn measures 18 feet in diameter and barely 2 feet in height. It was opened many years ago when the greater portion of the northern half was removed, and a short cist containing a skeleton in a contracted position was discovered in the centre of the mound. The side slabs and one end are still in position and the covering stone lies beside the grave. The skeleton was removed to an adjoining schoolhouse, now razed to the ground, and kept for one night only, the slumbers of the occupant of the house being disturbed by weird whistlings and other uncanny noises. The cist lies nearly north-east by

north and south-west by south and measures 3 feet 4 inches in length, 2 feet 2 inches in breadth, and 2 feet 2 inches in depth, while the cover, which is almost square in shape, measures 3 feet 9 inches in length, 3 feet 7 inches in breadth, and 6 inches in thickness. The top of the grave was about 1 foot 4 inches below the summit of the cairn. The second cairn lies some 15 feet south by east of the first and is of the same dimensions but better preserved. Like the first it contains a central short cist, of which the sides and ends are still *in situ*. It lies almost due north-east and south-west and measures 3 feet 4 inches by 1 foot 8 inches by 1 foot 10 inches; the cover stone, which lies quite near, is of irregular shape and measures 3 feet 4 inches in length, 2 feet 6 inches in breadth, and 6 inches in thickness. The sides, ends and cover stones of the two cairns are formed of fine single slabs of red grit and the body of the cairns by blocks of the same material. The western slope of the ridge between the cairns and the estuary shows numerous small heaps of stone said to be the remains of other cairns. Some 27 yards south-south-west of the second cairn is a small cottar house, immediately to the north of which are the foundations of the school-house already mentioned. When the stones of which it was built were being carted away a cist is reported to have been discovered under the floor, which is no more than 12 feet above high-water mark.

Skye li (unnoted). 6 May 1914.

611. Cairn, Inver Aulavaig.—On the opposite side of the stream, from Nos. [610] on the summit of a knoll rising abruptly behind a cottar house some 40 yards distant from and 40 feet above high-water mark, are the remains of a much dilapidated cairn of stones. A fine cist lies uncovered, formed of four slabs of red grit, and measures 2 feet 9 inches in length, 2 feet in breadth, and 2 feet 6 inches in depth, the longer axis running north-east by east and south-west by west. The covering slab lies beside the grave. About 1 foot to the east is the side slab of a second cist still in position, which had been built parallel to the first cist, but the other slabs of this grave have been removed. There are indications of other two burial chambers which have been destroyed.

Skye li (unnoted). 6 May 1914.

MISCELLANEOUS.

612. Enclosure or Hut Circle near Dun, Loch Baravaig.—Some 300 yards north of this dun is a circular enclosure 18 feet in diameter internally surrounded by a stone wall 4 feet thick and 1 foot high, of which the outer and inner facings of boulders remain. The entrance is from the east. A tortuous stone wall has been erected some distance to the south and north of the circle. This is probably of late date.

Skye lviii (unnoted). 7 May 1914.

613. Structure, Eilean Ruairidh.—This islet is one of a small group about 300 yards north-west of Dun Scaich and 200 yards from the shore. Its triangular crest is surrounded by the tumbled remains of a stone wall, the debris averaging from 6 to 10 feet in width. As there is an unusually large proportion of small stones, the wall could not have stood very high. Here and there a foundation course of larger stones can be traced, indicating the general outline. There are also indications of internal shelters against the east side. As some small lumps of stone show distinct traces of fusion by fire, it has been assumed that this has been a vitrified fort. But such pieces are loose and sporadic in occurrence and have probably been brought to the spot. The local belief is that there was once a smithy on the island.

Skye li. 24 June 1921.

SITES.

614. Dun Horavaig.—The site of Dun Horavaig on the summit of a rocky promontory on the sea-shore about 350 yards south-south-east of Knock House is now occupied by the ruins of Knock Castle, all traces of the dun having been obliterated. It is also known locally as Dun-Iain-Choinnich.

Skye lvii. 6 May 1914.

615. Dun.—On the coast, $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to the south-east of Loch Baravaig.

Skye lviii.

PARISH OF SNIZORT.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURE, ETC.

616. Church and Teampull, Skeabost Island.—The island in the River Snizort, about 100 yards below Skeabost Bridge and about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile

above its mouth, some $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-west of Portree, is occupied by a churchyard containing the ruins of two churches, one of comparatively late date and the other, the Teampull, smaller and much earlier.

CHURCH.—This building, which stands almost east and west and measures externally about 79 feet in length and 26 feet 9 inches in breadth, is now represented by grass-covered mounds rising generally about 2 feet above ground near the centre of the island. It has been encroached on by walled private burying grounds, and the only piece of building visible is on the north side near the eastern end. It would seem to have had a chancel.

FONT.—A broken stone font or stoup roughly square in shape, measuring 16 inches in length by 15 inches in breadth and 11 inches in height, with a cavity 10 inches in diameter at the mouth and 8 inches deep, was observed in 1914 lying on the grassy mound of the western wall of the church. It cannot now be found.

TEAMPULL.—Towards the west end of the island is the roofless church of St Columba in a fairly good state of preservation, the southern wall being somewhat broken down. It is orientated almost due east and west and measures 15 feet 10 inches in length and 9 feet 4 inches in breadth in the inside, the walls of stone and shell lime being 2 feet 8 inches thick. The northern wall, which is complete, stands 7 feet high; the gables are about 11 feet. Both gables are intaken 5 inches at the wall head, indicating that we have to do with an early mediæval not an old Celtic structure. The door, which wants the lintel, is 3 feet wide on the outside, being splayed on either side towards the interior; it is placed 4 feet 7 inches from the north-west corner of the building. There are two windows, both with inward splays. The first, in the centre of the east gable, 2 feet 9 inches from the ground, measures 20 inches in length by 5 inches in breadth externally and 3 feet 5 inches in height and 2 feet 3 inches in breadth internally; and the second, in the south wall, 7 feet 3 inches from the south-east corner, is broken on the western jamb.

The building is mainly of polygonal stones packed with some rectangular and many small stones.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—This church bears the name of St Columba. In 1501 "Schir Nichol

Berchame" was "chapellane of the parsonage of Sanct Colmez Kirk in Sneesfurd in Trouternes, in the lordschip of the Islis, togidder with the annexis and vicaragis thair of, that is to say Kilmolowok in Raasy and Kilmory in Walternes (Vaternish)." ¹

The vicarage of Snizort and Raasay ("Sneisport and Rairsay") was received in 1526 by Sir Donald Monro, author of the *Description of the Western Isles* (1549).² In 1561 "the personage of Snisport in Troutirinese" pertained to the Bishop of the Isles.³ The parish of Snizort till 1726 included what was then disjoined to form the parish of Portree.

¹ *Reg. Sec. Sig.*, I., No. 675.

² *Orig. Paroch.*, vol. ii., part i., p. 355.

³ *Collectanea de Rebus Albanicis*, p. 4.

MONUMENTAL EFFIGIES, SKEABOST ISLAND.—There are at least three grave slabs in the kirkyard with the figure of a knight carved in relief on their upper face. The best preserved lies to the south-west of the late church. It is of the usual bluish schist and measures 6 feet 7 inches in length, 2 feet in breadth at the top tapering to 1 foot 9½ inches at the foot, and about 5½ inches in thickness. In a sunk panel following the contour of the figure it bears an armed man with a bascinet, camail of banded mail and quilted coat reaching to the knees. The hands are held in front, the left grasping a claymore 3 feet 6 inches long with the hilt

7¼ inches in length and depressed quillons 3¼ inches long. The blade tapers from 2½ inches at the quillons to 2 inches at the point.

MMS

In the dexter top corner the initials RMS

IMS

are cut in late lettering. These are said to refer to a family named MacSween, who would have used this stone to mark their place of burial.¹ In the sinister corner is a small winged figure grasping a spear in his left hand and treading on an animal—St Michael.

Near by is a slab with a figure in high relief, which is clothed in the usual quilted coat to the knees with a very high pointed bascinet and camail; the right hand clasps the belt, the left rests on the quillon of the sword. This figure is broken at the feet and is much worn by weather. Within the church is another similar figure slab in high relief, which also is broken and badly weathered: in this case there is no quilted coat, while the claymore is grasped at the hilt by the left hand and hangs between the legs.

There is said to be a fourth figured slab, but it could not be found; the churchyard is in the usual island condition of being neglected and thickly overgrown.

¹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, XLIV., p. 374.

Skye xxiii. 28 May 1921; 25 March 1926

CASTLE.

617. *Caisteal Uisdein*.—Overlooking the entrance to Loch Snizort Beag and ½ mile north of Hinnisdal River mouth, the ruin of *Caisteal Uisdein* stands within 3 feet of the edge of the abrupt rocky shores, about 45 feet above sea-level. The walls rise unbroken to the first floor at an extreme height of 15 feet, and it is impossible now to determine the number of storeys of which the tower consisted. Similar in type to Castle Maol, the quadrangular plan measures externally 49 feet 8 inches by 32 feet 9 inches and lies nearly due east and west. The walls vary from 7 feet to 9 feet in thickness, are of random rubble and peculiar in that many of the stones are set on end and not on their natural bed. There are no mouldings, carvings or string-courses; the basaltic material is unsuitable for this purpose. A scarcement of 9 inches on the



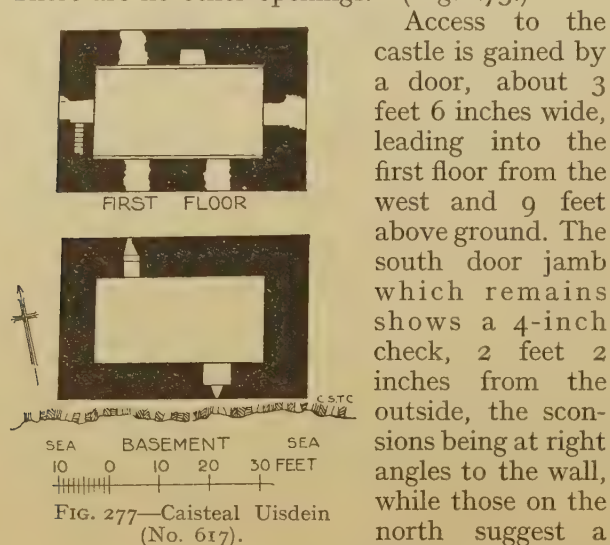
C. S. T. C.

FIG. 276—Effigy in Churchyard, Skeabost Island (No. 616).

ing a claymore 3 feet 6 inches long with the hilt

lateral walls to carry the first floor beams shows that the ceiling was not vaulted. (Fig. 274.)

The basement is lit only by two small loops, one in the west end of the north wall and the other in the east end of the south wall. From their width of 3 inches on the exterior face the loops splay inwards for less than half the thickness of the wall, where a breast is formed, from which the recess continues with rough flat segmental arched ceiling and square jambs to the interior. The southern window rises one step above the floor, as also does the northern window, which has also a step at the breast. There are no other openings. (Fig. 273.)



the south of this door a flight of six steps 1 foot 11 inches wide has led in the thickness of the wall to the upper chambers. Internally the first floor measures 33 feet 11 inches by 19 feet. A fireplace is built on the north side, and four rather indefinite openings in the walls, two in the south wall and one in each of the north and west walls, seem to indicate windows. From what can be traced, the sconsons in the south-eastern windows appear to be at right angles to the wall. A 9 inch by 9 inch opening at the scarcement level and below the eastern jamb of the eastmost window in the south wall pierces the wall to the outside.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—The story of "Hugh's Castle" is to the effect that it was built about 1580 by "Uistean Mac Ghilleaspuig Chlerich (Hugh, the son of Archibald the Clerk)," who was a very powerful and treacherous man," as a

factor in an intrigue against his uncle Donald Gorm Mor of Sleat. "This tower . . . was never entirely finished. It was erected on a rock by the seaside and had neither doors nor windows, but was to be entered on the top, by means of ladders, which could be pulled up and let down at pleasure." Hugh was seized and left to die of thirst in the prison of Duntulm.¹ The description is erroneous, but no retailer of the traditionary account, down to our own day, has ever thought of checking it. As detailed above, the place has both windows and a door, but it may be the case that it was never completed.

¹ *New Stat. Acct.*, xiv., pp. 258-60 and 289-90. Skye x. ("Disdein") 3 June 1921.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(BROCHS.)

618. Dun Suledale, Clachamish.—Some 150 yards east of the western boundary of the parish and about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile south-west of the township of Clachamish, at an elevation of over 300 feet above sea-level, is Dun Suledale, sometimes known as Dun Suledir, which though a ruin is the best preserved broch in Skye (Fig. 280). Not only does it contain some interesting structural features, but its situation is particularly fine. Built on an elevated site in the hilly moorland rising from the southern end of Loch Snizort on the north, it commands a fine view of that loch and the Outer Hebrides in the distance, and in other directions a wide stretch of rough heathery country encircled by hills. It stands near the centre of the plateau, which runs north-west and south-east, and is bordered by rocks rising 20 to 25 feet in height, except towards the north where the ground falls away in a fairly steep slope. The wall of the broch has a batter on the outside and reaches a general height of about 9 feet, much of it being obscured by fallen stones. The interior contains a great mass of tumbled material hiding and no doubt preserving most of the inner face of the building. The broch is practically a perfect circle, measuring internally at the present wall head 42 feet 4 inches in diameter, and the thickness of the wall varies from 10 to 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The entrance is from the west, and, as it as well as other



FIG. 278—Dun, Beinn nan Dubh-lochan, Ard an t'Sabhail (No. 478).



FIG. 279—Dun Boreraig (No. 505).



FIG. 280—Dun Suledale (No. 618)*

portions have been cleared of debris, its structural details are ascertainable. It is 2 feet 7 inches wide at the outside; some 3 feet 6 inches inwards is a door check on either side 5 to 6 inches deep, and thereafter the passage widens till it reaches a maximum width of 4 feet before it contracts to 3 feet 7 inches on the inside. Five lintel stones, three of them cracked, remain in position, and the height of the doorway is 5 feet 8 inches. On the right side of the entrance passage, 6 feet 10 inches from the out-

the south-south-west the eastern curved end of an oval cell or a gallery shows a length of 9 feet and a width of 4 feet. Within the eastern portion of the wall what seems to be the stair is partially cleared. It is 3 feet wide near the foot and 2 feet 7 inches wide at its present top, the outer and inner walls measuring about 5 feet 8 inches and 3 feet 4 inches in thickness respectively. The entrance is at the northern end and the stair to the right rises southward into an upper gallery just traceable beyond the

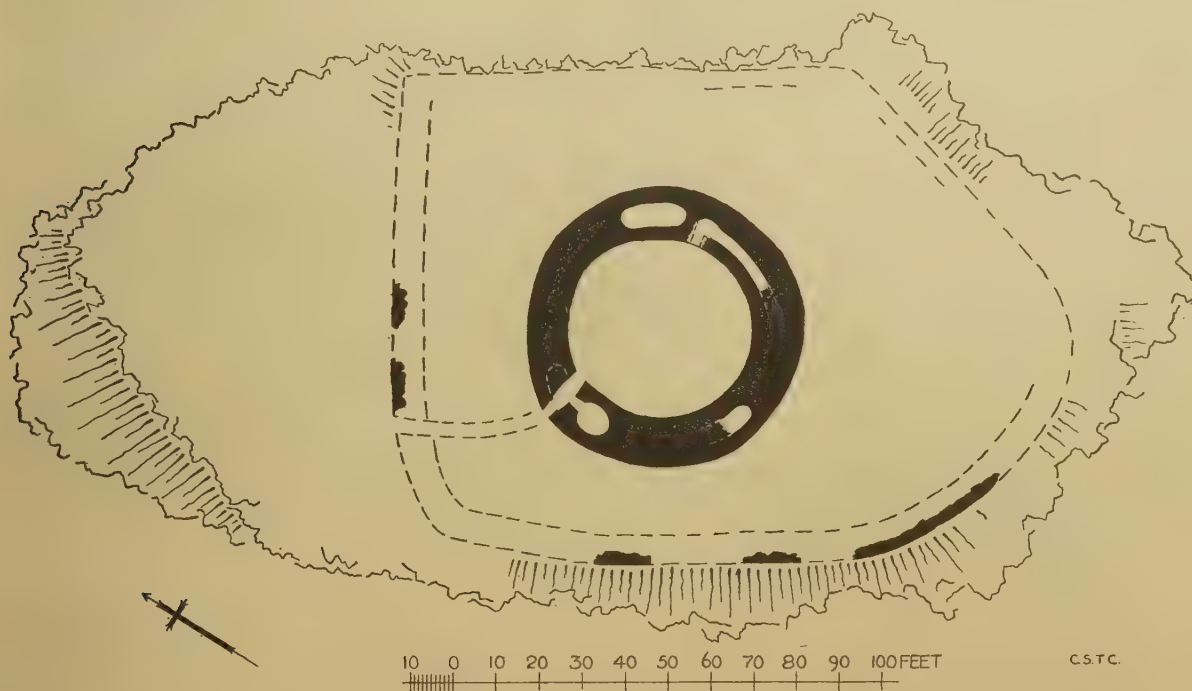


FIG. 281—Dun Suledale (No. 618).

side, a well-built low doorway, on the floor level, 2 feet 2 inches in height and 1 foot 10 inches wide, leads through a passage 2 feet 9 inches long, which increases to a height of 3 feet and to a width of 2 feet 9 inches, into a beautifully built, oval beehive cell in the interior of the wall, measuring 8 feet in length and 6 feet 6 inches in breadth at the floor level. Though the roof of the cell is broken it still measures 9 feet in height. In the eastern arc of the wall there is another oval cell partially cleared but with entrance covered; it measures about 16 feet 8 inches in length, 5 feet 5 inches in width, and 7 feet in height from the debris inside to the break of the roof. On

top. On the top of the wall as it stands at present, immediately to the north of the entrance passage and at a level higher than the lintels of the passage, is the curved northern end of an oval cell or long gallery, measuring 4 feet 6 inches wide, which has been built in the thickness of the wall across the passage. No scarment is visible but this feature might be revealed by excavation of the interior.

Amongst the rubbish in the interior of the broch a short length of the straight face of a wall is seen in the northern section and part of a curved wall in the south-west, probably remains of secondary buildings.

An outer defensive stone wall has crowned

the edge of the plateau, at a distance from the broch of about 25 feet on the north-west, 15 feet on the south-west, 22 feet on the north-east, and 54 feet on the south-east. The entrance through this barrier has been from the north-west, nearly opposite the doorway in the main building, and though the wall is nearly gone and its thickness indefinite the width of the entrance is apparently about 4 feet.

Skye xvi. 7 June 1921.

619. Broch, Kingsburgh.—At the southern and highest end of a gradually rising rocky ridge

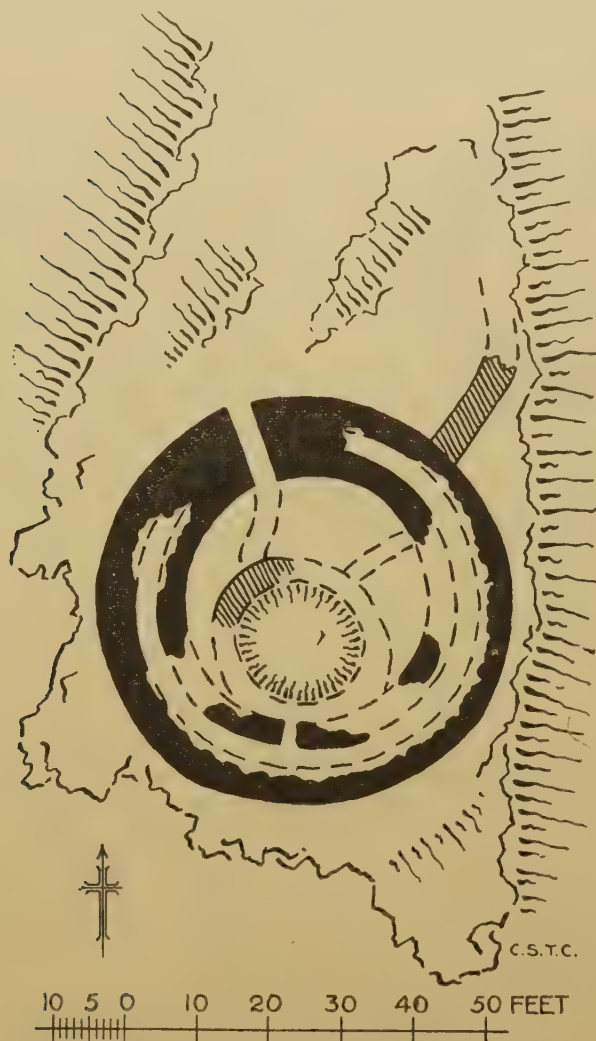


FIG. 282—Broch, Kingsburgh (No. 619).

running north and south and rising some 25 feet above the surrounding rough ground and

100 feet above sea-level, about 1100 yards due west of the 10 $\frac{1}{4}$ milestone from Portree on the Uig road, is a circular dun about 34 feet in diameter internally, the wall of which is reduced to a height of about 2 feet above the foundations on the inside and about 6 feet at most on the outside. The outer and inner faces of the wall, which has an average thickness of 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet, can be traced around the whole of the circumference, and the entrance in the north-north-west, measuring 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, is well defined. The sill of the door is raised some distance above the foundation, the height, apparently about 3 feet, being obscured by fallen stones. In the inner walling on the south, a doorway 2 feet wide gives access to a gallery with apparent continuations round the western and eastern arcs.

A large part of the interior is occupied by the later foundations of a circular structure, averaging 18 feet in internal diameter, surrounded by a wall about 3 feet thick and impinging on the southern wall of the broch at the entrance to the gallery. A wall 3 feet in thickness and 10 feet in length connects this construction on the north-east with the main wall.

A secondary wall foundation, 5 feet in thickness and now 15 feet in length, juts perpendicularly outwards from the north-east face of the broch.

Skye x (unnoted). 1 June 1921

620.—Dun Borve, Borve.—About 3 miles north-west of Portree on a rocky eminence projecting from the steep south-western slope of Pein Borve, $\frac{1}{4}$ mile east of the nearest house in the township of Borve, is a dun of the same name on the 500 feet contour line. The plateau on the height measures about 50 yards from north-east to south-west and about 30 yards across, and rises from 10 to 15 feet above the general slope of the hill, except towards the west where there is a steep grassy slope by which it is approached. It has been surrounded by a stone wall now almost gone except on the northern quadrant, where the outer face is still traceable, one portion showing a face of building 3 feet high. There have been two entrances through this outer defence, from the west and from the north-north-east, both about 3 feet 6 inches wide. On the highest part of the plateau a large heap of stones, about 70 feet in diameter and 10 feet

in height, is all that is left of a circular building. A short section of the outer face showing little more than one course of good dry-stone building is seen to the north, and a greater length round the eastern arc. From these the external diameter of the structure is seen to be 57 feet. No trace of the entrance or the inner face of the wall can be seen.

From the dimensions ascertained, the sinking of the heart of the wall suggesting a gallery, and the large mass of building material, there is considerable justification for believing that this may have been a broch.

Skye xxiii. 21 May 1914; 28 May 1921.

(DUNS.)

621. **Dun Cruinn, Skerinish.**—On the peninsula separating Loch Eyre from the upper part of Loch Snizort Beag, about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles north-

line. The summit of the hill, laterally level, rises slightly towards the centre of its length, and is on plan an irregular oval with main axis running north-west and south-east; it measures about 300 feet in length and about 80 feet in breadth near the centre. The summit has been defended by a stone wall, now almost obliterated, built on the edge of the steep natural scarp, except round the south-eastern part, which is defended by perpendicular cliffs up to 20 feet in height. A rampart of earth 25 feet broad in places, 3 to 5 feet high on the inside and 5 to 13 feet on the outside, apparently containing only its natural admixture of stones, is built all along the foot of the natural slope on the eastern flank and south-eastern end, at distances from crest of hill varying from 35 to 80 feet. Between its southern termination and the crest of a steep natural slope on the west a gap of 27 feet is the only distinguishable

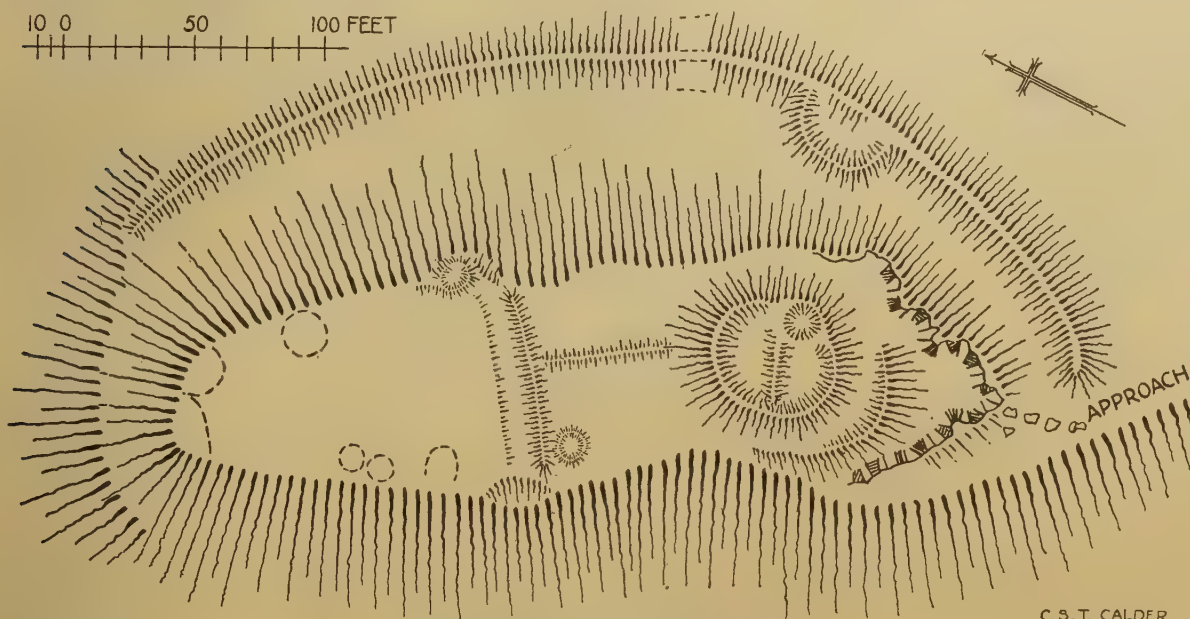


FIG. 283—Dun Cruinn, Skerinish (No. 621).

west of Portree, $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile north-north-west of Skerinish House, are three flat-topped rocky hills known as the Skerinish Duns. The most northerly of these naturally strong heights, Dun Cruinn, which lies about 350 yards east of and rises 300 feet from the eastern shore of Loch Snizort Beag, is the site of a fine fort. To the east and south the land dips down some 60 feet before rising again to over the 300 feet contour

approach to the fort, and 130 feet north-east of here, abutting on the inside of the rampart, is a semicircular area of about 36 feet in diameter bounded by a smaller rampart. The approach follows the south-western edge below the precipitous ledge of the summit, and obliquely across its mouth, in a line almost due north and south, are four boulders set on edge with a fifth about 5 feet west of the most northerly

The southern end of the summit is occupied by an oval building measuring from crest to crest 50 feet in length from north to south by 40 feet from east to west, surrounded by a stone wall, now overgrown with grass, of indefinite width and 6 feet in height in places, built a few feet from the precipitous sides of the ridge and some 64 feet from its southern extremity. It has been entered from the east and divided in two by a low cross wall running almost east and west, and on its eastern wall there is a hut circle 12 feet in diameter. Forming an arc some 50 or 60 feet in length round the south-west of this building, and about 20 feet distant, crest to crest, is a defensive rampart 12 feet broad,

served circle lies near the centre of the eastern flank, and two are faintly seen at the northern end; on the western flank are two impinging circles each 9 feet in diameter, near the centre of the wall. Another is traceable to the south. There are indications of hut circles near the centre of the northmost enclosure, and seven others can be traced abutting on the inside of the crest; their diameters are from 9 to 15 feet. The entrance pathway up the steep natural slope to this enclosure seems to pass between a well defined hut circle in its south-western angle and the end of the dividing ditch.

Skye xvii. 28 May 1921.

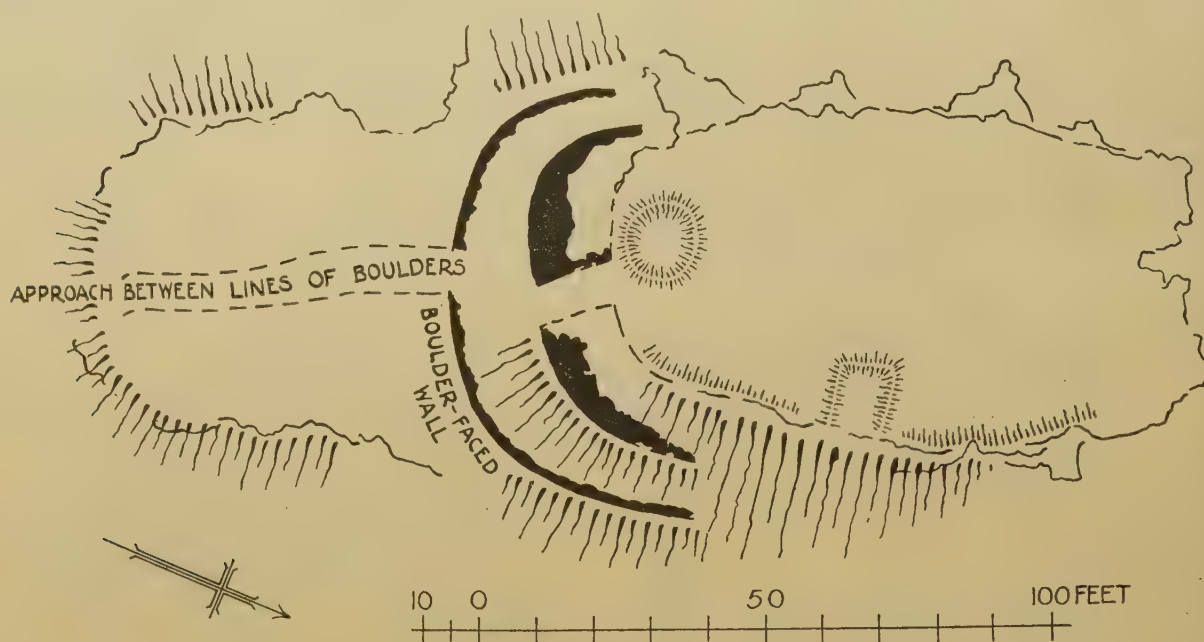


FIG. 284—Dun Eyre (No. 622).

which to some extent covers the main approach. The remaining part of the summit towards the north has been cut across its length by a shallow ditch 12 feet broad, with the excavated earth forming a low rampart 7 feet broad along its south side, thus making two enclosures; the northmost measures 126 feet in length and averages 75 feet in breadth, and the southmost, about 80 feet by 60 feet, has been subdivided by a slight rampart near its middle running north-west and south-east. In the north-west corner of the western subdivision is a hut circle 10 feet in diameter and in line with it to the east are traces of two others. The best pre-

622. **Dun Eyre, Eyre.**—About $\frac{5}{8}$ mile north-east of the road from Portree to Uig at the township of Eyre, at an elevation of 500 feet above sea-level, on a table-topped eminence on the northern side of Creag Moine overlooking Loch Snizort Beag, are the remains of Dun Eyre. The plateau on which it is situated is oval on plan, the main axis running north-north-west and south-south-east, and it is bounded for the greater part of its circumference by precipitous rocks, being accessible by a steep, narrow ridge from the south. On the western flank the rocks rise about 20 feet in height, and on the east about 10 feet. The internal dimensions of the

fort are 100 feet long and 58 feet broad. The defences consist of very slight remains of a stone wall built round the edge of the plateau and measure 12 feet wide on the south-eastern flank and 15 feet at the southern end, where at a lower level the face of an outer wall of boulders following a curve similar to the inner, at a greatest distance of $16\frac{1}{2}$ feet from it, is preserved across the ridge.

From the south end of the eminence, where the ground drops suddenly to a lower level, the approach into the fort is traceable between two

struction, 12 feet in length by 8 feet in breadth, cuts at right angles into the eastern flank near the centre. A circular foundation 12 feet 6 inches in diameter, and possibly a second, lies to the west of the inside of the entrance.

Skye xvii. 30 May 1921.

623. Dun Adhamh (Aidh), near Romesdal.—

At an elevation of 300 feet above sea-level, on a flat-topped rocky mass (Fig. 233) rising from the hillside about 400 yards east of the road from Portree to Uig, about $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north by west



FIG. 285—Dun Adhamh (No. 623).

lines of boulder stones set on end, 4 to 6 feet apart, for a distance of 58 feet, leading northwards to an opening in the outer wall somewhat towards the western side of the ridge. It then appears to angle northwards to enter the enceinte by a passage way 4 feet 6 inches wide through the main defence.

There have been a number of buildings in the interior of the dun, of which a rectangular con-

struction, 12 feet in length by 8 feet in breadth, cuts at right angles into the eastern flank near the centre. A circular foundation 12 feet 6 inches in diameter, and possibly a second, lies to the west of the inside of the entrance.

of Romesdal Bridge, is Dun Aidh, marked Dun Adhamh on the map. The oval plateau on the summit rises about 50 feet above the surroundings and the main axis runs almost north-west and south-east. Surrounded by the remains of a stone wall about 10 feet thick, which on the east side rises about $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet above the inner level, the interior measures about 94 feet in length and an average of about 40 feet in breadth. At many

places on the circumference the lower course of the outer face is traceable, and on the steep flanks are considerable quantities of fallen stones. Outside a ditch, 12 feet wide at the base of the rock round the north-western end, is an earthen rampart 9 feet broad and $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, the ends of which recurve into the rocky slopes on either side of the fort. A gap, 38 feet wide, in its northern arc contains a mound 25 feet by $18\frac{1}{2}$ feet over all, on top of which is a circular stone construction, now overgrown and with an internal diameter of 5 feet 9 inches enclosed by a wall $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness. The purpose of this feature cannot, without excavation, be determined.

A narrow entrance indefinite in width is traceable in the south-eastern end of the dun. Immediately on entering the fort a roughly oval enclosure, 27 feet long and 17 feet broad, is seen abutting on the wall in the eastern angle, and 7 feet to the west of it are the remains of a hut circle about 8 feet in diameter. In the north-western end of the dun are indications of at least two others.

Skye xvii. 12 June 1921.

624. Dun, Creag nam Meann.—At Creag nam Meann, on a flat-topped rocky ridge on the east side of the road from Portree to Uig, some $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the first mentioned place, are the remains of a stone-walled fort. The summit, which rises some 50 feet above the surroundings and 250 feet above sea-level, is an irregular oval in shape, the main axis running almost due north and south. The enceinte measures 170 feet in length and 82 feet in breadth at its widest part. It has been defended by a stone wall practically obliterated on the western flank and appearing as a tumbled mass of stone 2 feet in height on the opposite side. This wall diverges from the regular line at places following the projections of the edge of the cliff.

Both ends have been defended by an outer wall. On the north the outer wall, though much dilapidated, shows a width of 5 feet and is erected across the end of the ridge some 46 feet distant from and 16 feet lower than the inner defence; the outer defence to the south, which shows a breadth of 5 feet 6 inches, is erected 6 feet lower than and 23 feet distant from the inner wall, but unlike the northern outer wall, which terminates on the rocks on the sides of

the ridge, the ends of this wall return sharply to meet the inner defence. The entrance is from the south-east corner of the ridge and between the outer and inner defence is walled on both sides. Immediately within the outer defence, to the left, is a hut circle 13 feet in diameter abutting on the inside of the wall, and there are traces of two impinging hut circles farther west.

Within the enceinte are a number of buildings. Against the wall on the eastern flank is a fine hut circle 20 feet in diameter, with a wall 4 feet thick and 1 foot high, the entrance being towards the south. Almost opposite it but rather towards the north, abutting on the western wall, is a large hut circle 30 feet in diameter, of which the inner face in the form of a ring of large stones placed contiguously remains in position, and there is evidence of a similar structure to the south of it. On the inside of the wall to the west of the entrance is another well defined hut circle of smaller dimensions, and in the south-western arc are indications of two larger curvilinear enclosures. At the northern extremity of the enceinte in the body of the wall which widens to 27 feet are several indeterminate structures.

Skye xvii (unnoted). 30 May 1914.

625. Dun Santavaig, Am Bagh-dhuin, Kingsburgh.—To the south of the mouth of the River Hinnisdal, in the angle between the river and Loch Snizort Beag, is a flat-topped ridge which from a low elevation at the southern end gradually attains a height of about 100 feet towards its northern extremity. The eastern or mainland side of the ridge rises steeply from a hollow, and the western flank and northern extremity being precipitous the position is one of unusual strength. The dun has been defended on the south and south-east, the only assailable part, by a stone wall the remains of which show, in places, three or four courses of building in position on its outer face. From the edge of the cliff on the south-west this wall is carried across the ridge for 30 yards and thence northwards along the eastern flank for some 60 yards, where the rising height of the ridge makes further defence unnecessary. The outer facing foundation stones of an outer defence, running eastwards from the edge of the cliff at the south-west, are traceable across the ridge 18 feet

distant from the outer face of the main wall at the entrance passage $9\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide at the southern end of the enclosed area. The lower courses of the eastern side of this entrance passage through the inner wall are still in position, showing that the wall was about $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick at this part. The area enclosed is of large extent with a breadth of 183 feet over all from the northern extremity of the walling on the east to the edge of the precipice on the west, and it is approximately 350 feet in length.

Abutting on the inside of the wall on the eastern flank are two hut circles measuring 12 feet in diameter over all, and some distance to the north is an oval hollow measuring 18 feet from north to south and 9 feet in breadth, which seems to have been walled. As the bottom is damp and contains a vigorous growth of iris it may have been a reservoir to contain water.

Skye x (unnoted). 25 March 1926.

626. Dun near Caisteal Uisdein.—About 500 yards east of Caisteal Uisdein and about 750 yards north-north-west of the dun at Peinduin (No. 619) is a flat-topped hillock with outcropping rocks on the steep scarp. The summit, which rises only 15 to 20 feet above the surroundings, has been defended by a stone wall, almost entirely obliterated save on the south-eastern arc, where a length of 12 feet of walling 3 feet in height remains, the stones in this small piece of building being of great size. The fort must have been of very small dimensions, as the plateau over all measures only 34 feet from north to south and 30 feet from east to west. The entrance seems to have been from the south.

Skye x (unnoted). 2 June 1914.

627. Dun Maraig, Cuidrach.—Pol na H-Ealaidh is a small landlocked bay on the east side of Loch Snizort, at Cuidrach, some $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-south-west of Uig. About 70 yards from its western shore is a tidal islet, inaccessible for the greater part of the day, which is occupied by the ruins of Dun Maraig. It measures about 40 yards in length by some 30 yards in breadth and has been connected with the western shore of the bay by a causeway, now quite destroyed. On the side next the causeway it has been defended by a stone wall of considerable strength,

which has collapsed for the greater part. A portion, however, built just above high-water mark, maintains a height on the outside of 4 to 5 feet for a length of some 8 yards. The opposite side of the islet is rather higher, its rocky margin rising 6 to 8 feet above high tide, and here there are no traces of a wall. There are the remains of two oblong houses of late date within the dun.

Skye x. 2 June 1915.

628. Dun Borge, Cuidrach.—On the summit of a rocky hillock rising from 25 to 50 feet above

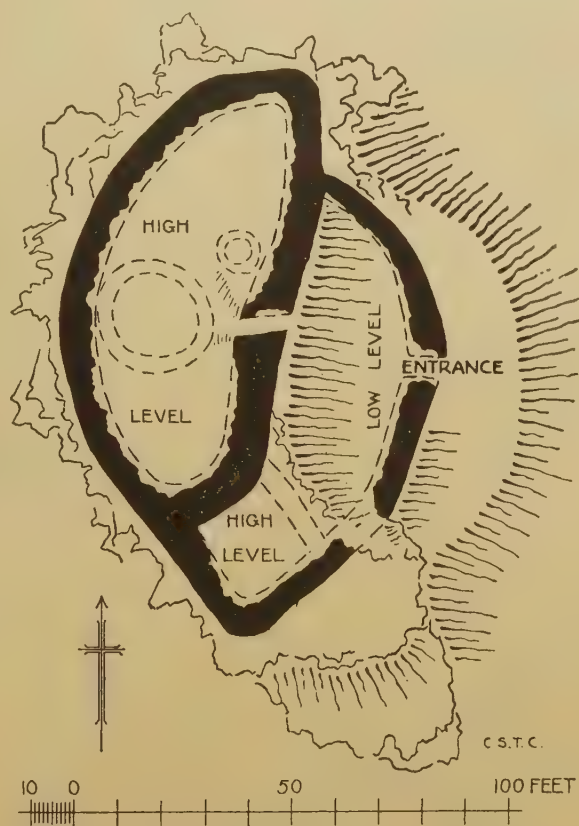


FIG. 286—Dun Borge, Cuidrach (No. 628).

the surroundings, and 100 feet above sea-level, some 300 yards north-east of Cuidrach House and $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-south-west of Uig, are the much dilapidated remains of Dun Borge. The segmental enceinte, which measures internally 90 feet from north to south along the main axis and 33 feet across, has been defended by a stone wall built on the edge of the rocky escarpment. The inner face is totally destroyed or

concealed under debris, but a wall thickness of 9 feet is suggested round the western flank and a greatest thickness of 13 feet shows in the middle of the eastern at the entrance, which is 3 feet 2 inches wide. An outer wall leaves the main wall 28 feet north of the entrance and curves southwards on a lower level and seemingly rises up the steep side of a rocky continuation of the fort level, over which it runs parallel to the main walls and returns to meet it at its southern extremity. This wall, about 8 feet thick, encloses an area on the east of the fort about 93 feet in length and 28 feet at its widest. This enclosure has been entered from the east directly opposite the fort entrance, and it may have been subdivided by a thinner transverse wall on its high level in the south.

In the interior of the fort opposite the entrance is the trace of a hut circle 19 feet in diameter internally, impinging on the western arc and situated in a shallow trench excavated across the ridge about 1 foot below the natural level. About 12 feet north of the entrance abutting on the interior of the wall is a small hut circle 6 feet in diameter internally.

Skye x (unnoted). 2 June 1921.

prominent, flat-topped hillock rising some 30 feet above the hollow which intervenes between it and the higher ground to the east. The summit is occupied by Dun Creanan, which has been defended by a stone wall built along its western or landward edge. The wall is much dilapidated, and only an occasional stone on its outer face appears through the grass with which it is overgrown. The dun measures some 90 feet in length from north to south and only some 26 feet at most from the exterior of the wall on the west flank to the edge of the cliff on the east. Apparently a considerable part of the cliff has fallen since the dun was built. The entrance, which is placed towards the southern end of the landward side, is too dilapidated for measurement.

Skye xii. 31 August 1915.

630. Dun near Peinduin (Pe an Duin).—About 350 yards west of the road from Portree to Uig, 11 miles from the former place and some 300 yards east by north of the ruined house of Peinduin, in which Flora Macdonald died, is a flat-topped eminence reaching a height of about 100 feet above sea-level. For the greater part

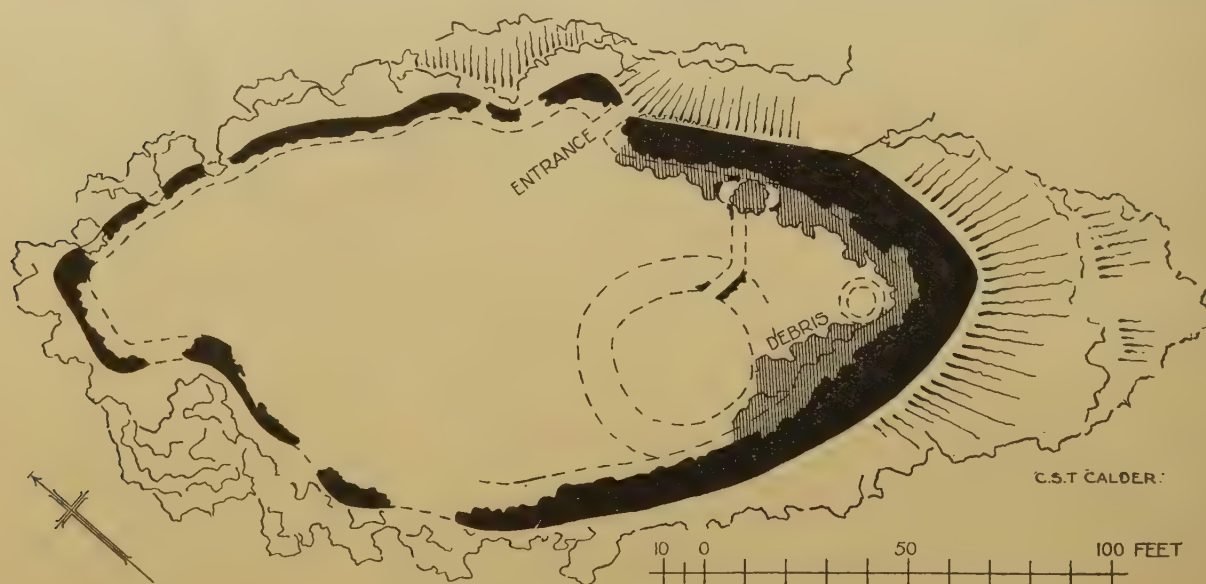


FIG. 287—Dun near Peinduin (No. 630).

629. Dun Creanan, Inver Tote.—About 700 yards south of Inver Tote, which lies at the mouth of the Lealt River, on the edge of the cliff on the sea-shore, some 400 feet high, is a

of its length on the north-eastern flank it rises in a cliff some 60 feet high and to the south-west is a steep rocky scarp 20 to 30 feet high, while from the south-east it is approached by a

gradual rise. The summit, which is of irregular oval shape, is surrounded by the remains of a stone wall built on the edge of the rocks, which varies in width according to its accessibility and encloses an area with axes some 200 feet and 90 feet in length, the longer lying north-west and south-east. At the south-eastern end of the wall, a mass of tumbled stones shows a width of 16 feet and still rises 5 feet above the interior and from 5 to 12 feet above the exterior level. Turning northward along the eastern flank it is reduced to a width of $9\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and when the precipitous part is reached seems again to be diminished to about 5 feet in thickness up to the northern end. Along the western flank, which though steep and rocky is not inaccessible, the wall now almost entirely gone seems to have been of considerable strength and from 7 to 12 feet in thickness. Across the south-eastern projection of the ridge, some 28 feet from the inner wall, four larger stones set on edge may indicate an outer defence. The entrance to the fort, about 4 feet wide, is near the middle of the east flank. Its approach must have followed a tortuous course from the south-east up the steep rocky slope.

The dun contains a number of interesting structural features within the enceinte. An area 35 feet in diameter and 5 feet in depth, probably a chamber and excavated, which has been surrounded by a stone wall possibly 9 feet in thickness and now a tumbled mass, abuts on the south-western wall. At this part of the wall there were slight indications that it may have contained a narrow gallery within its thickness.

Perhaps the most interesting feature, however, is seen to the east of the large circle. A walled passage almost filled with debris, apparently 3 feet wide and 26 feet in length, connects it with what seems to have been an oval cell corbelled internally, about 18 feet in length built against the inside of the main wall. This is also filled with tumbled stones, but everything points to the passage and chamber having been roofed over, forming a structure like that disclosed in an earth-house. Against the main wall to the south of these structures are indications of one or more hut circles.

Skye x. 3 June 1921.

CAIRNS.

631. Cairns near Kensaleyre.—Encroaching on the east side of the road from Uig to Portree, about 6 miles from the latter place, and 200 yards south-east of where the road branches off to Skeabost, at an elevation of 100 feet above sea-level, is a large cairn of stones overgrown with heather, which has been to some extent denuded of stones at various places at the sides and at the ends. The main axis of the cairn runs almost due north and south and it measures some 66 feet in length, 40 feet in breadth, and 7 feet in height.

Barely 100 yards south-east of the large cairn and about 30 yards north-east of the road is a denuded small cairn measuring 15 feet in diameter and reduced to less than 1 foot in height. Round the circumference is a curb-like setting of small stones set on edge, rising about 9 to 12 inches above ground, the flat outer faces forming a regular curve. In the centre of the cairn is an open cist composed of four slabs set on edge, the main axis running north and south and measuring 2 feet 6 inches in length, 2 feet 3 inches in breadth, and at least 2 feet 3 inches in depth.

About 50 feet to the south-east is a stone slab set on edge facing the north-west and measuring 3 feet 5 inches in height, 3 feet 6 inches in breadth, and from 11 to 14 inches in thickness. Some $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet in front of it is a prostrate pillar 3 feet 7 inches in length, 2 feet 11 inches in breadth, and at least 1 foot in thickness.

Skye xvii (unnoted). 25 May 1914.

632. Carn Liath, Kensaleyre.—The fine cairn known as Carn Liath is situated on the right bank of the River Haultin, less than $\frac{1}{2}$ mile before it falls into Loch Eyre and about 400 yards south-south-west of the parish church of Snizort, at Kensaleyre, at an elevation of barely 25 feet above the high-water mark. Entirely composed of stones, of which few exceed 1 foot in length and breadth, it is circular in shape and measures some 80 feet in diameter and 18 feet in height. It is probably a chambered cairn. (Fig. 237.)

The surface of the cairn has been disturbed in places in the search for large stones for building, but the main body of the structure seems to be intact. About half-way up the cairn, on

the north-east side, is a short cist formed of four slabs, the mouth for the greater part covered by a large stone. This grave, which lies almost north-west and south-east, is 2 feet 9 inches in length, 1 foot 7 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 10 inches in depth; the floor appears to have been covered with broken stones of small size, and the slab on the south-eastern side of the chamber barely reached the floor level. The grave was exposed about 1907 by some men looking for a large stone for a lintel. On noticing the human bones which it contained they desisted from interfering further with the structure, and since then the cairn has not been disturbed. The bones have now disappeared.

Skye xvii. 20 May 1914.

633. Cairn, Uig.—On the brow of a sharp dip in the low-lying ground at the head of Uig Bay, about 250 yards south-west of the Established Church, and about the same distance from and 30 feet above high-water mark, is a cairn of stones of irregular outline overgrown with grass. It measures 54 feet from north-west to south-east and 48 feet from north-east to south-west and rises 5 feet above the higher ground to the east and 12 feet above the low ground to the west.

There is a large depression on the summit of the cairn, and the surface has in other places been considerably disturbed.

Skye vii (unnoted). 2 June 1914.

634. Cairn (denuded) or Hut Circle, Kingsburgh.—On moorland about $\frac{7}{8}$ mile north of Kingsburgh, and some 700 yards east-south-east of the broch (No. 619), overlooking the south bank of the River Hinnisdal, at an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level, is a circular setting of stones and small slabs set on edge, measuring about 15 feet in diameter internally. It is more likely a denuded cairn of the variety seen some 4 miles to the south-east (No. 631) than a hut circle.

Skye xi (unnoted). 8 September 1915.

635. Cairn, Tot nan Druidhean.—Some 40 yards east of the road, about 1 mile south of Invertote, on a slight prominence about 400 feet above sea-level, is a grass-covered, circular mound of stone and earth some 36 feet in

diameter and 9 feet in height which is probably a burial cairn. The summit is slightly hollow. Immediately to the east the ground falls away about 20 feet in a steep escarpment.

Skye xii (unnoted). 31 August 1915.

CIRCLE AND STANDING STONES.

636. Stone Circle (remains), Clachan Erisco, Borve.—At the crofting township of Borve, about $3\frac{1}{4}$ miles north-west of Portree, on the line of the low dyke on the south side of the accommodation road, are the remains of a stone circle called Clachan Erisco. There are three erect stones forming a very flat curve, the axis of the extreme stones running north-west and south-east. The stone to the east, an irregular six-sided prism, is 6 feet high and $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet in girth at the ground; the central stone, $13\frac{3}{4}$ feet distant, is $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height, 3 feet 2 inches in breadth, and 13 inches thick; while the third stone, $13\frac{1}{2}$ feet farther on to the north-west, measures $3\frac{1}{4}$ feet in height, 2 feet 8 inches in width, and 15 inches in thickness; the two latter are set up radially. In the line of the curve formed by these three stones, at a distance of 21 feet 10 inches to the north-west, is a fourth stone $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet high, 2 feet 4 inches broad, and 11 inches thick, which may have been one of the component parts of the ring of stones.

In the immediate neighbourhood are three prostrate monoliths, which possibly had formed part of the circle, as no other stones of their magnitude or appearance are to be found in the adjoining drystone dykes. One of these is built into a dyke about 20 feet to the west of the standing stones and measures 6 feet long, 2 feet broad, and 12 inches thick; another lying within 2 yards of it is $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad; and the third, on the opposite side of the road 50 yards to the east, is 5 feet 2 inches long, 8 inches thick, 1 foot 4 inches broad for the greater part, but widening out to a breadth of 2 feet 4 inches.

Skye xxiii. 21 May 1914.

637. Standing Stone, Clach Ard, Uig.—About 50 yards from the east side of the road from Portree to Uig, some 170 yards south-west of Uig School, on a slight eminence at an eleva-

tion of 300 feet above sea-level, is a prostrate pillar stone lying on the summit of a stony mound resembling a denuded cairn. The pillar is a four-sided prism tapering slightly towards one end and measures 5 feet 2 inches in length, 1 foot 10 inches in breadth, and 1 foot 5 inches in thickness. About 7 feet to the north-east are two rough boulders, 1 foot 6 inches apart, embedded in the ground, which measure 3 feet 4 inches and 3 feet 2 inches in length and 2 feet 3 inches and 2 feet 7 inches in breadth respectively.

Skye xi (Stone Circle—remains of) 30 May 1914.

638. Standing Stones, Sornaichean Coir Fhinn, the Glebe, Eyre.—About 10 feet from the edge of a bluff rising barely 20 feet above the northern shore of Loch Eyre, on the glebe of the parish minister of Snizort, about 250 yards south-south-west of the manse, are two standing stones 13 feet 6 inches apart placed in a line running nearly north-north-west and south-south-east. The north stone, a four-sided pillar, stands 5 feet 6 inches above ground and measures 7 feet 8 inches in girth at the base, and the stone to the south, which is of irregular section, is 5 feet 8 inches in height and 6 feet 1 inch in girth at its widest part, about 2 feet from the ground. It is said that there was once a third stone here.

Skye xvii. 20 May 1914.

639. Standing Stone, Tote, Skeabost.—About 150 yards north of the sculptured stone No. 640, already described, near the junction of the roads from Portree and Tote to Uig, on rough, heathery muirland, is an irregular block, probably a standing stone, measuring 3 feet 6 inches in height and 8 feet 3 inches in girth at the base.

Skye xxiii (unnoted). 8 September 1915.

MISCELLANEOUS.

640. Symbol Stone, Clach Ard, Tote.—Some 5 miles north-west of Portree and $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of Skeabost Bridge, in the township of Tote, 20 feet from the north side of the road to Tote Lodge, is a sculptured standing stone known as Clach Ard. It occupies a rather precarious position near the edge of a gravel pit and faces the south. It is an irregular

five-sided prism and measures 4 feet 5 inches in height and 1 foot 7 inches across its southern aspect. On this face three symbols are incised, the crescent and broken rod with floriated ends occupying the top, the spectacle ornament and zigzag rod with ends also floriated placed longitudinally on the stone below it, and the mirror and comb symbol near the base. The symbols, with the exception of the mirror and comb, are fairly distinct, but the ornamentation in the discs of the spectacle ornament and crescent is nearly obliterated. It seems to have consisted of small circles with a round dot in the centre. (Fig. 263.)

Skye xxiii (unnoted). 20 May 1914.

641. Enclosure, Hinnisdal.—On a small plateau some 40 yards east of the road to Uig, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north-west of Hinnisdal Bridge, at an elevation of nearly 200 feet above sea-level, is a dilapidated circular ring of stones measuring about 42 feet in diameter externally. The stony mound is 9 feet broad and 3 feet in height. Adjoining it to the north-north-west is a walled enclosure, in which are the foundations of a small hut, but these structures are probably of later date than the circular building, which is of a more archaic type than the deserted ruins seen in profusion in many parts of the island.

Skye x (unnoted). 2 June 1915.

SITES.

642. Foundations of Chapel at junction of burns about 1 mile north-east of Glenhinnisdal. Skye xi (unnoted).

643. Old Church at Uig, possibly swept away by flood of 1877. Skye vii (unnoted).

644. Cairn (supposed) near Cuidrach House.—About 400 yards east of Cuidrach House, and 100 yards south of private road leading to it, on a slight rise in the moor about 100 feet above sea-level, is a setting of five stones forming a circle about 45 feet in diameter, of which only one stone 2 feet 2 inches in height towards the south-west is erect. Two of the four prostrate stones are only detected by probing. An oval mound of stones 12 feet 6 inches in length, 7 feet 8 inches in breadth, and rising 1 foot in height, lies to the south-east of the centre.

Skye x (unnoted). 2 June 1914.

PARISH OF STRATH.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURES.

645. **Cill Chriosd, Strath Suardal.**—Kilchrist Church stands on the western side of the Broadford-Torran road and nearly 300 yards east of Loch Cill Chriosd. Measuring 52 feet 9 inches by 17 feet 6 inches internally, it forms a rectangle, the main axis varying 30 degrees from due east and west. There are no openings in the north and west walls. The side walls, 8 feet high, are 2 feet 3 inches and the gables 2 feet 10 inches in thickness. The church is entered by a doorway 3 feet 3 inches wide with

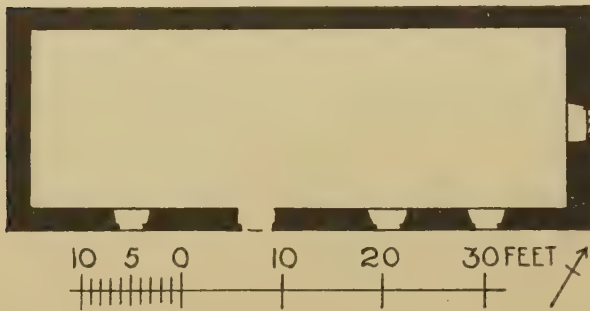


FIG. 288—Cill Chriosd, Suardal (No. 645).

splayed jambs and check and square sconsons in the south wall, in which are three windows, each 2 feet 4 inches wide, with check and inward splay. A similar window, 3 feet wide and now built up, is in the east gable. The church probably dates from the late 16th or early 17th century. (Fig. 18.)

HISTORICAL NOTE.—There was in 1505 a presentation of Kenneth ("Kenzoch") Adamson, chaplain to the rectory and vicarage of "Kilchrist in Askimilruby . . . in Strasuordale," vacant by the death of the last possessor, "John MacGillebredison." In 1508 John Ranaldson was presented to "the rectory of the parish church of Strath called *Cristis Kirk*, vacant by the death of the late rector John Johneson."¹

STONE IN CHURCHYARD.—Lying in the churchyard is an armorial stone in two pieces, measuring 1 foot 4 inches in width and 1 foot 9½ inches in height, with a semicircular head, and bearing on the bottom part, which is 10¾ inches high, a rude repre-

sentation of the McLeod arms (and those of a wife?), viz., parted per pale, dexter, a three-towered castle; sinister, a lion (bull) upwards (passant). The upper part contains the initials N. McL., and the whole is within a carved border. There are seven small holes in the upper part, indicating that something had been attached to it.

FRAGMENT OF CROSS-SHAFT.—Another fragment in the churchyard, crude in execution, appears to be the necking and lower arm of a cross. At its widest it measures 1 foot 1 inch and is contracted to 8½ inches at top and is 1 foot 7 inches high. The lower portion is carved with two animals in relief, sitting upright face to face with hind and fore legs touching and heads raised; the upper part is the raised lower arm of a cross (?) with two circular cavities incised. The reverse is plain.

SLAB WITH CROSS.—In the kirkyard is a recumbent slab of slate 5 feet 11½ inches long and 1 foot 9½ inches broad, with a panel at the top of the slab, 1 foot 7½ inches long by 1 foot 6½ inches broad, containing a foliated cross of eight rays which spring from a circle in the centre 4½ inches in diameter. The inner ends of the rays and the foliaceous design are interlaced. A double bead is cut right round the edge of the stone. The dexter side of the cross is well preserved, but the greater part of the other side has been entirely worn away.

Skye xlv. 23 June 1921.

646. **Teampull Fraing, Island of Scalpay.**—Near the south-east corner of the island of Scalpay, on a grassy knove on the west side of a small burn, sheltered by sharply rising hills to the north-west, some 300 yards south-west of Scalpay House and about 150 yards from the shore, in a burying ground which is still occasionally used, are the fragmentary remains of Teampull Fraing, the area which includes the church and burying ground being known locally as Francaig. The church has been built of stone and shell lime, but is now an utter ruin. It is oblong on plan, and orientated a little south of east and west of north. The best preserved part of the teampull is at the eastern end, where the gable reaches a height of 4 feet 6 inches, otherwise the walls have a height only of 2 to 3 feet

¹ *Reg. Sec. Sig.*, I., Nos. 1115, 1719.



FIG. 289—Duntulm Castle (No. 538).



FIG. 290—Caisteal Maol (No. 648).

To face p. 206.

above the outer level. The building measures about 21 feet in length and 12 feet in breadth internally and the wall is about 3 feet thick. Apparently the door has been near the western end of the southern wall.

In the mortar, which contains many oyster, mussel, limpet, whelk and other shells, fragments of charred wood used in burning the lime were noted at one place.

SLAB WITH INCISED CROSS.—A few yards west of Teampull Fraing stands a narrow, undressed slab of red grit, 3 feet 9 inches above ground, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth for the greater part of its length, and varying from 3 inches to 5 inches in thickness. On the eastern face it bears a rude Latin cross, the outline of which is formed by incised lines continued across the intersection of the shaft and arms, the ends of the top, arms and base being curved. It measures 16 inches in length and $6\frac{3}{8}$ inches across the arms. The top measures 4 inches in length and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in breadth, the arms $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth, and the shaft $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length and from $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in breadth. It is placed slightly to the dexter side of the medial line of the slab about 13 inches from the top.

Skye xl. 11 May 1914.

647. Chapel, Island of Pabay.—At the south end of the island of Pabay, about 50 yards off the beach, within an old graveyard on the left bank of a small streamlet, are the foundations of a teampull, orientated almost due east and west. The internal measurements are 16 feet in length and 10 feet in breadth. The wall, overgrown with grass and built of stone and shell lime, is 2 feet 4 inches thick and rises only 1 foot in height above the ground. The door seems to have been near the western end of the south wall.

Some 24 feet north-west of the church are the foundations of a stone building 10 feet in length by 9 feet in breadth, and about 30 feet to the south-east are similar remains of a structure 21 feet long by 8 feet broad inside. These buildings are outside the enclosure in which the church is built and seem to be of much later date.

Skye xli. 16 May 1914.

CASTLE.

648. Caisteal Maol.—Situated less than $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile due east of Kyleakin, and on the western shore of Loch Akin, Castle Maol, a stronghold of the Mackinnons of Skye, occupies the summit of a rocky promontory about 50 feet above sea-level. (Fig. 290.)

The north and west sides of the height fall steeply to the water's edge, while the south and east sides drop precipitously over the rocks to a low-lying neck which isolates it from the mainland. The approach from all directions is difficult, but a pathway suggests itself as coming up the easiest natural slope at the north-west corner from the sea and seems to be governed by a cleft in the rock about 5 feet wide and 25 feet away from the castle.

The structure appears to be of 15th-century date and is rectangular on plan, measuring 46 feet 6 inches by 34 feet 8 inches externally with its major axis lying almost north-east and south-west. Only the northern and southern corners and the south-eastern wall

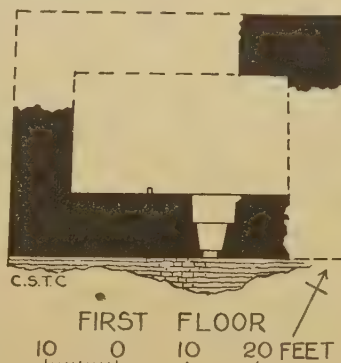


FIG. 291—Caisteal Maol (No. 648).

remain, being 8 to 9 feet thick. They reach a height of 35 to 40 feet outside and have contained three floors, with possibly a fourth within the roof.

Debris completely fills the basement, but a corbel, projecting from the south wall at a level of 3 feet below the step of the first floor window, indicates a bearer support for the floor. Evidently there have been no vaulted ceilings.

The walls are of basalt rubble and are faced externally and internally with squared rubble built to courses of varying heights. Many of the facing stones are equal in breadth and height and many polygonal in form. The lime is made from coral. At base of the south wall there is a batter, which varies from 1 foot 2 inches to 8 feet on the splayed face, according to the irregular contour of the rock. No windows appear in the basement.

On the first floor, at the eastern end of the south wall, a window 2 feet by 2 feet is formed with square rybats. It has double sconsons, arched and opening to a width of 6 feet 9 inches in the interior. The rear arch is composed of thin stones on edge with a wedge-shaped keystone. Opposite on the north wall there seems to have been a similar window. No trace of door or stairway or other voids is seen.

A row of joist holes shows the second floor to have been about 10 feet higher than the first, and there is indication of a window over the one on this floor. Approximately another 10 feet above is a ledge, suggesting the third floor level, and the wall extends to a height of 4 or 5 feet above this.

HISTORICAL NOTE.—Dean Monro (1549) mentions "the castill of Dunnakyne, pertaining to Mackynnoun," which is clearly this place. It is marked on Blaeu's (*i.e.* Pont's) map under this name. In 1616 and 1627 Lauchlan Mackinnon of "Strathordill" had charters of these lands as a barony with the privilege of a ferry boat on the water of Kyleakin.¹

¹ *R.M.S.*, s.a., Nos. 1514, 1183.

Skye xli. 25 June 1921.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

(GALLERIED DUNS.)

649. Dun Kearstach, Glen Boreraig.—Near the head of Glen Boreraig, about 2 miles south-east of Torran, on the summit of a ridge lying between Allt a'Ghairuillt and a smaller burn to the south, about $\frac{1}{2}$ mile from, and 400 feet higher than, the eastern shore of Loch Slapin, are the ruins of Dun Kearstach. This dun commands one of the most magnificent prospects in Skye. Looking down the glen to the west, the serrated ridge of Blaven, rising over 3000 feet from the water's edge, backed by the rugged Cuillins with Loch Slapin in the foreground, is seen; to the south is the mountainous island of Rhum, and to the north the lofty cone of Beinn na Caillich. The ridge occupied by the fort runs nearly east and west; it is very steep on the flanks, rising about 35 feet above the general level, and the summit is reached by a gradual ascent from the west.

The enceinte, which is oval on plan, measuring 67 feet in length and 43 feet in breadth, has been surrounded by a fine stone wall, varying from 21 feet thick at the south-eastern end to 13 feet on the northern flank, but this is almost levelled to the ground, the debris of the wall covering the slopes on the flanks for a distance of nearly 40 feet. Short sections of the lower courses of the outer face of the building are visible round the north-eastern arc and on the south-west, but in no place are they more

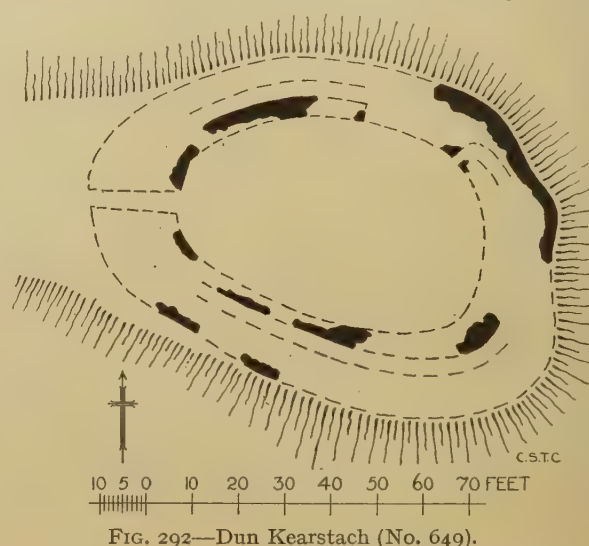


FIG. 292—Dun Kearstach (No. 649).

than 1 foot 6 inches in height. The entrance, very slightly defined, has been through the western end, but it is too dilapidated for measurement. For a distance of about 38 feet in the western end of the northern wall the remains of a narrow chamber can be traced. The outer wall of this gallery is broken down, but the inner wall, 4 feet thick, still reaches a height of 2 feet 3 inches in places. Part of the western jamb of the doorway of this chamber is still in position some 43 feet from the entrance of the dun, and some 21 feet farther east there are traces of another opening, seemingly to a second gallery in the north-eastern arc, while indications of a third are visible along the southern flank.

Skye xlvi. 20 June 1921.

650. Dun Ringill, Kilmarie.—About 1 mile south-south-east of the hamlet of Kilmarie, and occupying the end of a small precipitous promontory rising 35 feet above sea-level on

the western shore of Loch Slapin, is the ruin of a broch-like structure, Dun Ringill. (Fig. 297.)

Owing to the natural incline of the ground from the entrance to the cliff edge and partly to debris, the interior is on a higher level than outside the western arc, and therefore less height of walling is necessary on the seaward side, where, being inaccessible, the wall appears

been removed, pierces the wall in the north-west and has been extended inwards by a later lime-built addition in which the original lintels have been re-used. It terminates in a short flight of steps ascending to the court. The original entrance is 15 feet 2 inches long, 4 feet 4 inches wide outside, increasing in width at a distance of 4 feet 4 inches inwards

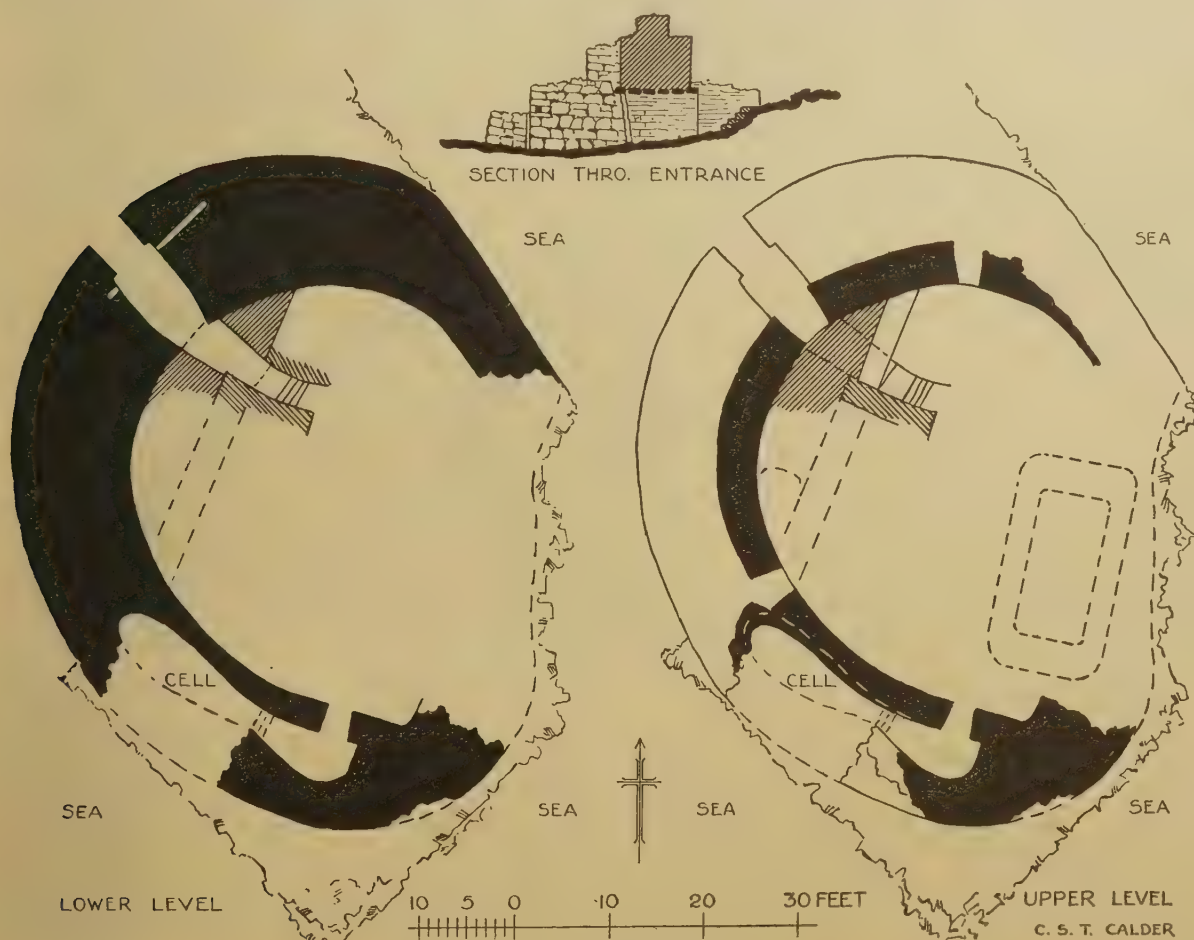


FIG. 293—Dun Ringill (No. 650).

to have been also thinnest and for the most part cannot now be traced. The wall of the dun forms a sub-oval on plan with axes 72 feet and 58 feet, and varies in thickness from 15 feet at the entrance to 8 feet 6 inches on the north-east. It is 10 feet in height at the entrance and 13 feet at the cell on the south-west. A distinguishing feature is a batter on the inner as well as the outer face.

A passage way, from which the lintels have

been removed, pierces the wall in the north-west and has been extended inwards by a later lime-built addition in which the original lintels have been re-used. It terminates in a short flight of steps ascending to the court. The original entrance is 15 feet 2 inches long, 4 feet 4 inches wide outside, increasing in width at a distance of 4 feet 4 inches inwards

there are foundations of a secondary rect-

angular building measuring 15 feet by 7 feet 6 inches internally, with side walls 2 feet 6 inches thick and gables 3 feet 10 inches thick; its main axis lying north-north-east and south-south-west.

About the court level and over the entrance a gallery has been carried round the north-western arc in the thickness of the wall. Only the inner wall, which is from 3 feet 6 inches to 5 feet 9 inches in thickness, remains to a height of 2 or 3 feet. In it are three openings, one in the north, one immediately over the rear of the main entrance, and one in the south-west, 2 feet 2 inches, 3 feet 9 inches, and 2 feet 9 inches wide on face respectively.

In the lower-level walling on the south-west an exceptionally fine and large oval chamber, which has been arched in the usual manner by overlapping stones, has been exposed through its outer wall falling away. It measures 18 feet long by a possible greatest width of 5 feet, and its inner wall still attains a height of 13 feet. It has been reached from the court through a doorway 2 feet 8 inches wide and 3 feet 2 inches deep, leading into a connecting D-shaped passage 11 feet long and 4 feet 10 inches wide at most, reducing to 3 feet 2 inches where it joins the eastern end of the spacious chamber, at which point two lintels remain in position. Cf. *Monro*, p. 38.

Skye l. 23 June 1921.

651. Dun Grugaig, Elgoll.—Dun Grugaig occupies the summit of a roughly rectangular-shaped rocky promontory increasing in width towards the sea, and rising sheer 50 feet above it on the eastern side of Strathaird peninsula, about $1\frac{3}{8}$ miles south-east of Elgoll and $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-north-east of Rudha na h-Easgainne, the most southerly point in the peninsula. The dun measures 69 feet externally along the major axis from north-west to south-east, and varies in width from 24 feet at the north-west to 35 feet at the opposite end. It is defended, across the narrow neck of the landward side on the north-west, by a massive stone wall $14\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, standing to a height of 13 feet above the inside level and 7 feet 2 inches to a gallery floor above the outside. The walling round the other sides has been much narrower, apparently only

about 5 feet thick, but the inside face is destroyed. (Fig. 298.)

Not only is the finely-built entrance passage in the centre of the north-west wall complete, with six of its seven lintels in position, but part of a gallery immediately above, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad, is traceable for 7 feet towards the south-west, and apparently has been carried over in the north-east, where, at about $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the inside of the entrance, an opening $1\frac{2}{3}$ feet wide contains the first three treads of a flight of steps, presumably leading up to it from the court. The inner wall of the gallery, which is still 6 feet high in parts, is 4 feet 10 inches thick, and the outer wall, which

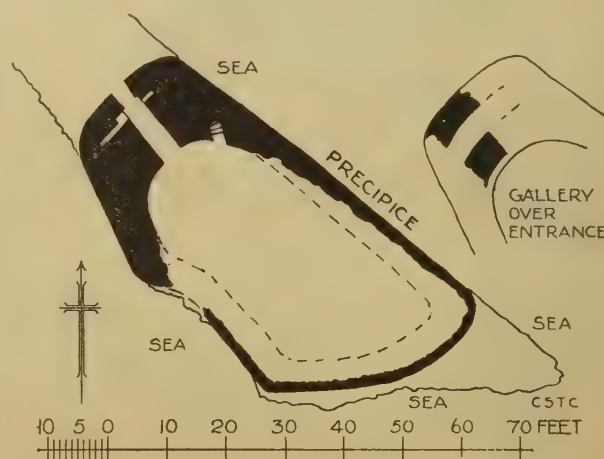


FIG. 294—Dun Grugaig (No. 651).

shows a height of only a few inches, is $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. The gallery has been provided with at least one opening looking into the interior of the dun, the western jamb being still *in situ* above the entrance passage. On the inside of the main wall, at the level of the lintels of the passage, is a scarcement 8 inches broad. The passage is $14\frac{1}{2}$ feet long; at the outside it is 4 feet high, $2\frac{2}{3}$ feet wide at top and 3 feet at bottom of the wall, and at the inside it increases in height to $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet and in breadth to $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet at the top and $3\frac{3}{4}$ feet at the bottom. There are door checks $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches on the eastern, 5 inches on the western side of the passage and 3 feet 2 inches from the exterior, with a bar hole $2\frac{3}{4}$ feet from the ground, measuring 9 inches in height and 7 inches in breadth.

Some of the stones in this dun are of considerable size, one of the foundation stones on the outer face to the right of the entrance being

8 feet in length, $1\frac{1}{4}$ feet in breadth, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet in height. The outer lintel is also a fine big stone, $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in length on its lower side, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet on the top, 2 feet 2 inches high and $1\frac{1}{4}$ feet thick.

Skye l. 21 June 1921.

(DUNS.)

652. Dun Beag, Torran.—On an elevated rocky promontory jutting into Loch Slapin to the south of the township of Torran, about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south-south-east of Dun Mor (No. 653), are the remains of Dun Beag. The plateau on the summit of the rock is roughly oval on plan and measures 36 feet from north to south and 28 feet from east to west; it stands about 30 feet above the high-water mark and 20 feet above the neck on the landward side to the north. The slight remains of a stone wall are traceable along the whole circumference of the defence, being rather higher towards the land.

Skye xlv. 13 May 1914.

653. Dun Mor, Torran.—To the south of the township of Torran, on the summit of a long, elevated, rocky ridge rising from the east side of Loch Slapin, is Dun Mor. It stands about 100 feet higher than the loch to the west, and about the same height above a hollow on the east, which cuts it off from the hills behind. The ridge is difficult of access except from the north, at which end is the entrance to the dun. The main axis of the fort runs north and south, along which it measures some 330 feet internally, while it is some 120 feet in breadth. It has been defended by a massive stone wall, which for the greater part has been demolished to provide building material for a very large cattle-fold erected within its boundaries. So complete has been the destruction of this wall, that while it can be traced for nearly its entire length, only at the south end, on the south-eastern arc, and at the north end is any of the original building in position. A few of the larger foundation stones on the outer face of the wall remain undisturbed at the south end, and a short section of building to the south-east has been preserved by being utilised as the foundation of the modern wall at this part.

At the north end is a mass of tumbled stones 10 feet in breadth and 3 feet in height. The entrance is quite obliterated.

Skye xlv. 13 May 1914.

654. Dun near Drinan.—On a rocky point on the western shore of Loch Slapin, rising some 30 feet above the sea at Cadha nan Ingrean, about 400 yards south of Drinan and $\frac{3}{8}$ mile south-east of Kilmarie, are the remains of a dun of irregular shape measuring internally some 26 feet from north to south and 23 feet from east to west. It seems to have been surrounded by a stone rampart, which has been of small dimensions on the southern arc towards the sea but very strong on the northern segment, where it could be easily assailed. The tumbled mass of stone at this part is spread over a width of 27 feet and is 9 feet in height. The entrance, which is slightly to the west of north, is 4 feet 6 inches wide, and the thickness of the wall at this part seems to have been about 13 feet. A small portion of the inner face of the wall is still in position on the north-east.

Skye l. 23 June 1921.

655. Dun Liath, Elgoll.—About $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles east-north-east of Elgoll, and about the same distance north-north-east of Dun Grugaig (No. 651), on the east side of the peninsula of Strathaird, on a flat, grassy plateau some 10 yards west of the edge of the steep slope down to the shore of Loch Slapin, is Dun Liath. It stands about 100 feet above the high-water mark and about 250 yards distant from it. All that is left of what had been a fine building is a large circle of tumbled stones, in places 20 feet wide and 4 feet high; the dun was plundered of stones to provide material for a high drystone dyke in the immediate vicinity. The outer and inner foundation courses of the building being visible at many places, the internal diameter from north to south is found to be 38 feet and from east to west 35 feet. The wall varies in thickness; it seems to be 10 feet at the south, 12 feet at the west, 13 feet 9 inches on the north-west, and 16 feet on the north-east. The entrance has been destroyed, but there is slight evidence for placing it in the south-east.

Skye l. 14 May 1914.

656. Dun Borerraig, Loch Eishort.—On the north shore of Loch Eishort at Borerraig, some $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles east of Rudha Suisnish, on a small promontory rising about 40 feet above the sea-level, are the very scanty remains of Dun Borerraig. Of the defences all that survives is a grass-covered, stony mound, which on the northern or landward side measures 13 feet broad, $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet high on the inside and 3 feet on the outside, and which, though greatly reduced in size, can be traced a short distance along the eastern and western flanks. The enceinte, which is rectangular with rounded corners, measures 66 feet along the longer axis from north to south and 41 feet from east to west. The stones from this dun have doubtless been removed to build an adjoining township, long deserted.

Skye li. 15 May 1914.

CAIRNS.

657. Chambered Cairn, Liveras, Broadford.—This fine cairn, which was opened in 1832 and since then has been further disturbed, encroaches on the west side of the road about 500 yards south of the pier at Broadford, immediately to the north of the garden of the United Free Church manse. Standing 100 feet distant from and 20 feet above high-water mark, it is now oval in shape and measures 77 feet in length, 55 feet in breadth, and 13 feet in height at its highest point. It is reported that the chamber was about 6 feet in height, and that an urn and other relics, including a flint arrow-head and a stone bracer or wrist-guard, were found in it.¹ The latter is preserved in the National Museum of Antiquities. The cover stone of the chamber, which had a part broken off when the cairn was excavated, lies on the north slope of the cairn; what remains is roughly triangular in shape and measures 8 feet in length, 5 feet in breadth across the widest end, and 1 foot in thickness. When the road to the new pier at Broadford was being made, at least one cist was discovered in removing a small part of the eastern edge of the cairn.

¹ *Strath: In Isle of Skye*, by Rev. D. Lamont, p. 160.

Skye xl. 9 May 1914.

658. Cairn, Beinn na Caillich.—On the summit of Beinn na Caillich, the conspicuous hill rising to a height of 2403 feet, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Broadford, is a cairn of stones measuring some 50 feet in diameter. The body of the cairn measures 8 feet in height, but seems to have originally been higher, as the top is surmounted by a cone of stones rising another 6 feet in height, doubtless of late construction. Although local tradition says that it was erected over the grave of a Norwegian princess, without excavation it is impossible to say if it is a prehistoric monument. Hill-top cairns of large dimensions and at considerable altitudes are found in many parts of Scotland.

Skye xlvii (unnoted). 31 May 1915.

659. Chambered Cairn and Indefinite Remains at foot of Beinn na Caillich.—On boggy ground at the foot of Beinn na Caillich, on its east side, are the much-scattered remains of a chambered cairn and an adjoining structure of indeterminate character which may possibly represent a much broken circle or the remnants of a second cairn. The chambered cairn has apparently been of a somewhat oval form, with its longer axis, approximately 28 feet, lying due N. and S.

Skye xlvii (unnoted). 20 June 1921.

660. Chambered Cairn, Sithean (fairy knowe).—At Sithean, about $1\frac{3}{8}$ miles south-west of



FIG. 295.—Chambered Cairn at foot of Beinn na Caillich (No. 658).



FIG. 296—Dun, Rudh an Dunain (No. 483).



FIG. 297—Dun Ringill (No. 650).



FIG. 298—Dun Grugaig (No. 651).

Broadford and some 20 yards west of the road to Torran, at an elevation of about 150 feet above sea-level, on a grass-covered rocky knowe, are the remains of what seems to have been a chambered cairn. Overlooked by Beinn na Caillich, which towers about 2000 feet above it to the north-west, it commands a fine view down Strath Suardal to the south-west with Loch Cill Chriosd in the distance, and approached from this direction it stands up a prominent object near the summit of a sharp rise. A large part of the cairn, especially on the north-eastern segment, has been removed, no doubt to furnish building material for a row of houses, now in ruins, which runs in a northerly direction from its eastern side. The cairn seems to have been circular, but at present measures about 81 feet from north-east to south-west and about 71 feet from north-west to south-east, and at most it is 9 feet in height. A large portion of the central part of the cairn has been removed, but six upright slabs, varying from 1 foot 4 inches to 2 feet 8 inches in height above the stones in which they are set, are left standing, and give an indication of a central chamber. The three most westerly slabs, which are the largest of the six, form the south-eastern arc of a circular structure about 9 feet in diameter, and the relative position of the adjoining stone is such that it might have formed part of the southern wall of an entrance passage. The remaining two stones do not fit into the plan of a straight entrance passage, but they may have been displaced.

In one of the adjoining houses, of which only the ruins remain, Wm. Ross, the Gaelic bard, was born in the year 1762.

Skye xlvii (unnoted). 12 May 1914.

661. Chambered Cairn (?), Achadh a'Chuirn.—On cultivated land at Achadh a'Chuirn, in the township of Waterloo, near Broadford, some 200 yards from the south-east shore of Broadford Bay and about 500 yards south-south-west of Rudh' Achadh a'Chuirn, at an elevation of about 30 feet above sea-level, is a much dilapidated cairn overgrown with grass. It seems to have been circular with a diameter of about 80 feet, and it now shows a height of some 8 feet. The tops of two slabs, 8 feet 3 inches apart, project about 9 inches above the

grass slightly to the north of the present centre of the cairn. These may indicate the existence of a ruined chamber.

Skye xlvii (unnoted). 26 May 1915.

662. Long Cairn, Cnocan nan Gobhar, Kilmarie.—In a plantation on the left bank of the Abhuinn Cille Mhaire, about 100 yards north of Kilmarie Lodge and some 20 feet above the bed of the burn and 50 feet above sea-level, is a fine cairn of stones with no admixture of soil, marked Cnocan nan Gobhar on the O.S. map. It is oval in shape, the main axis running north-west and south-east (137° mag.) almost parallel to the burn, and it measures 72 feet in length, 58 feet in breadth, and 15 feet in height.

Except on the eastern slope and south-eastern end, where the surface has been disturbed, the cairn is covered with a thick layer of peat.

Skye l. 14 May 1914.

HUT CIRCLES.

663. Hut Circles, Glen Boreraig.—On a grass-covered plateau near the middle of Glen Boreraig, about 400 yards west of Dun Kearnach (No. 649), at an elevation of 300 feet above sea-level, is a hut circle 41 feet in diameter internally with an entrance 5 feet wide on the east-south-east. Two lines of stones set on edge, the foundation stones of the outer and inner faces of the wall, are still *in situ*, showing a breadth of 5 feet except on either side of the entrance, where it widens to 7 feet. A modern stone enclosure about 4 feet in diameter, a lamb-fold, occupies the centre of the circle.

Some 95 feet to the east-north-east are the stone foundations of an oval enclosure 36 feet in length from north-west to south-east and 20 feet in breadth, with the segment of a hut circle approximately 11 feet in diameter near the south-eastern end. A modern lamb-fold occupies the centre of the latter structure.

The large hut circle is erroneously noted as stone circle (site of) on O.S. map.

Skye xlvii. 15 May 1914.

664. Hut Circles, Sithean.—About 70 yards east of the cairn at Sithean (No. 660), but at

a slightly higher elevation, are the remains of two circular enclosures, 9 feet apart. The outer and inner facing stones of the foundation of the wall of both structures remain in position, showing the walls to have been some 5 feet thick, widening to 7 feet on each side of an entrance to the south, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide. The walls have probably been completed with turf which has disappeared. The internal diameter of the circles is 31 feet.

Skye xlv (unnoted). 12 May 1914.

CIRCLES AND STANDING STONES.

665. Standing Stones, Boreraig.—On a gently rising grass-covered slope about 100 yards from the north shore of Loch Eishort and near to Dun Boreraig are two rectangular slabs in juxtaposition, one, 4 feet 1 inch in height, 1 foot 9 inches in breadth, and 6 inches in thickness, which stands erect facing the loch to the south, and another, which is overthrown, 3 feet 8 inches long, 2 feet 6 inches broad, and 5 inches thick. The stones occupy the summit of a slight mound. There is another group of these stones a short distance away.¹

¹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, Vol. XLVI., p. 206.

Skye li (unnoted). 15 May 1914.

666. Standing Stone, Clach na h-Annait, Kilbride.—The stone known as Clach na h-Annait ("Stone of the Mother Church") is a fine monolith, quadrangular in section for the greater part of its length, measuring 7 feet 9 inches in height above ground and 5 feet 10 inches in girth at the base. It stands in a hollow in the middle of Strath Suardal, at an elevation of about 80 feet above sea-level, 100 yards almost west of Kilbride House and $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles south-west of Broadford. (Fig. 268.) Kilbride Church may have been on a rocky mound about 25 yards south-east of the stone, but all traces of the building have disappeared, and the exact site is not known.

Skye xlv. 13 May 1914.

667. Stone Circle (Na Clachan Bhreige), Strathaird, Kilmarie.—On a peninsula on the west side of a small loch in Strathaird, a broad, heathery muir embosomed in hills to the north,

west and east, about $\frac{3}{8}$ mile west of Kilmarie, and at an elevation of less than 100 feet above sea-level, is a stone circle of four fine stones, three standing and one prostrate, known as Na Clachan Bhreige ("the false stones"). The circle has been of small dimensions; judging from the arc formed by the three stones still standing it has been about 18 feet in diameter. The most westerly stone, 5 feet in height and 4 feet 4 inches in girth at the base, expands slightly in width towards the top, and decreases from a thickness of some 10 inches at the base to 3 inches higher up. The stone to the north inclines to the north-west: quadrangular in section it measures 6 feet 6 inches in height and 6 feet 7 inches in girth; the easterly stone is 6 feet high, 1 foot 8 inches in width, and 11 inches in thickness. The prostrate stone is a fine pillar 11 feet 6 inches in length, and from 1 foot 6 inches to 1 foot 9 inches in breadth. The first stone is of red grit and the others are of white quartzose sandstone. (Fig. 239.)

Skye xlv (unnoted). 14 May 1914.

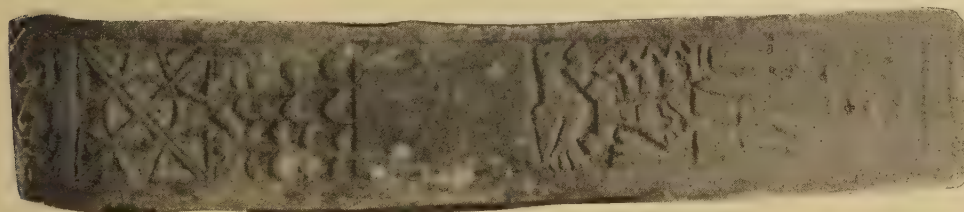
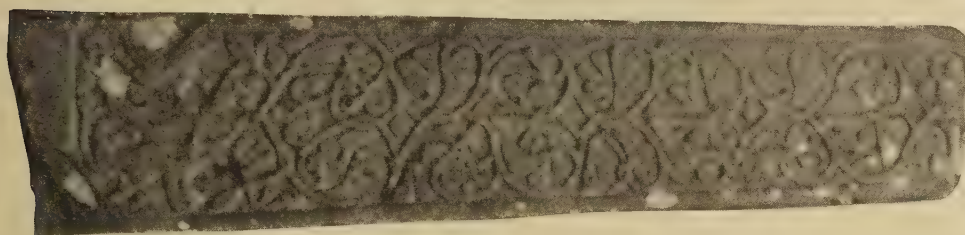
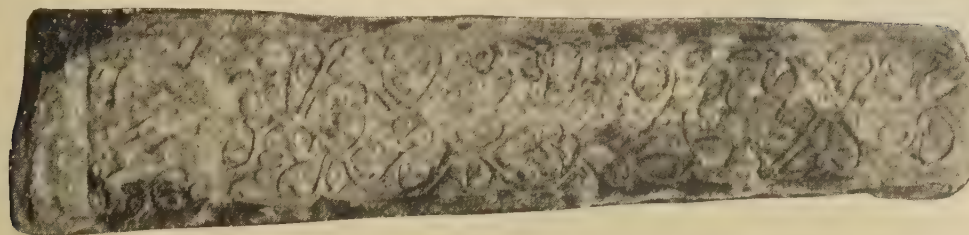
MISCELLANEOUS.

668. Slab with Cross at Elgoll.—On the east side of the road at Elgoll, 100 yards north of the first milestone from the end of the road at the sea-shore, is a rectangular slab 3 feet 3 inches in height, 1 foot 4 inches in breadth, and $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in thickness, bearing on its western face an incised Latin cross almost obliterated by the elements. The cross is 18 inches in length and 9 inches across the arms.

Skye l (unnoted). 14 May 1914.

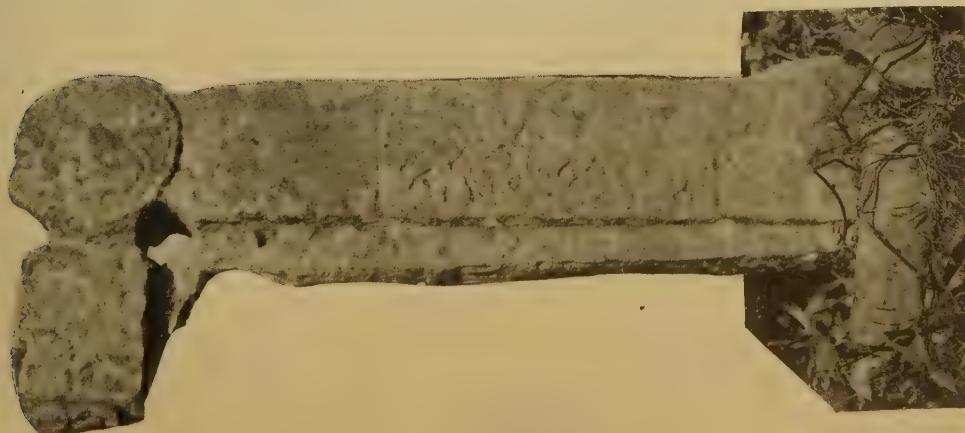
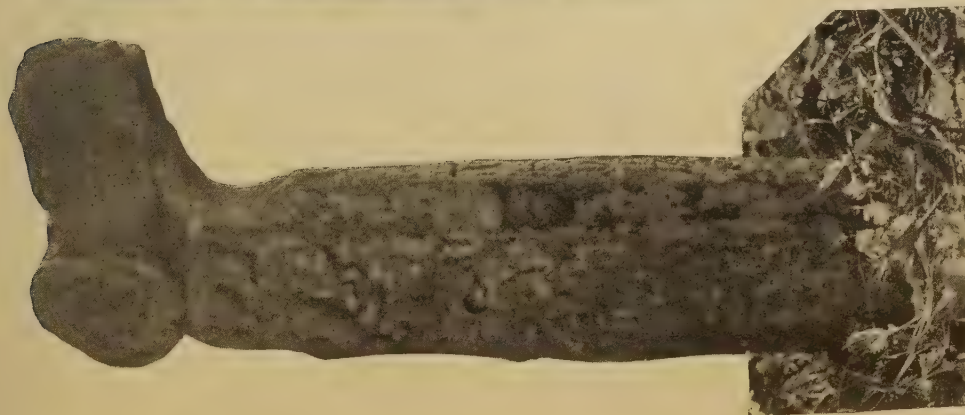
669. Holy Well, Tobar na h-Annait, Kilbride.—Barely 50 yards south of Clach na h-Annait is the well Tobar na h-Annait. The spring is enclosed in a comparatively modern building and is covered with a circular stone cover with a round hole in the centre. "It was built in and covered with a mill-stone by Dr Mac-kinnon's grandfather."¹

It is said that Clach na h-Annait was once removed and used as a lintel stone in a house, but the experiences of the inmates were such that they were glad to restore it to its original



FIGS. 302, 303—Cross-shaft, Kildonnán (No. 688).

FIG. 301—Carved Slab.
A'Chill (No. 678).



FIGS. 299, 300—Sculptured Cross, A'Chill (No. 678).

position. This story sounds apocryphal, as the stone has a slight curve on it, and it would not have been very suitable for this purpose.

¹*Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, XLVI., 204.

Skye xlv. 13 May 1914.

SITES.

670. Cille Mhaire.—Adjoining the foot of the garden in front of Kilmarie Lodge is the burial ground of Kilmarie. Foundations of a building met with in digging graves in the north-west corner of the graveyard are supposed to be those of the old church.

Skye l. 14 May 1914.

671. Teampull Choan, Boreraig.—The site of this church is on a grassy flat above the sea-shore about 400 yards east-north-east of Dun Boreraig (No. 656). No traces of a building are now discernible.

Skye li. ("Chaoin") 15 May 1914.

672. Church at Kirkibost.

Skye xlv (unnoted).

673. Teampull at Liveras.

Skye xl (unnoted).

674. St Bridget's Chapel, Kilbride, near Kilbride House. Font and handbell found A.D. 1870 (O.S.M.).

Skye xlv.

675. Cill Ashik (Aiseag — Church of the Ferry), north-east of Lower Breakish, with graveyard.

Skye xli.

676. Stone Circle, Kilbride.—The site of this circle is about 200 yards west of Kilbride House. The stones have all been removed and the exact spot cannot be identified.

Skye xlv. 13 May 1914.

677. Earth-house.—In Church Park, Broadford; discovered about 50 years ago. (Cf. *Strath: In Isle of Skye*, by Rev. D. Lamont, p. 9.)

PARISH OF SMALL ISLES.

CANNA.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURE, ETC.

678. Sculptured Cross and Slabs, A'Chill.—The site of St Columba's Chapel is marked by the finely-sculptured free-

standing sand-stone cross of unusual type which stands by the graveyard in a valley rather less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north of Canna post-office. Mutilated by the loss of the top and one side arm, the cross has a present height of 6 feet 5 inches, and when entire had a width of 4 feet 4 inches over the arms. The shaft has a total thickness of 8 inches and a total width of 2 feet, but the outer parts of both obverse and reverse are set back about 2 inches and terminate at the



FIG. 304—Sculptured Cross, A'Chill (No. 678).

arms in bracket-like projections. The cross head has a central circular panel on either face, to meet which the remaining arm tapers and is incurved. Each face and side is sculptured. On the front, which faces eastward, the sculptures are mainly in high relief. On the head the circular panel, 1 foot 3 inches in diameter, is very weatherworn and bears what appears to be a serpentine pattern; the arm is also sculptured, but the device is illegible. On the outer portion of the shaft the uppermost

sculpture represents an animal with an elephant's head and trunk, forelegs of a horse and rudimentary hind legs; beneath is an animal turning back and biting its body, the tail being tufted like a lion's; below this is a figure on horseback carved with great spirit; the rider wears a hood and a loose coat with a tail, his legs are bare or tightly swathed. The horse has a bit and reins, and there is an object roughly bag-shaped above the rump. Beneath this is a group comprising a woman wearing the hair curled, clad in a frock of ankle length, with a child in her left arm, and another figure represented in profile with long hair and beard, holding a bag or vessel. The lowest sculpture represents two amorphous creatures resembling fish. On the receding portion of the shaft there is, below the remaining portion of the arm, what seems to be an angel worked into the bracket-like projection, and lower down a mole-like animal and a piece of interlaced work. The outer side of this part of the shaft is also sculptured with panels containing heads and busts, while on the outer surface of the arm is a boldly-cut knot. (Figs. 299, 300.)

The reverse side of the shaft is greatly worn and bears in low relief a series of interlaced panels containing, apparently, animals intertwined in places. The top-most panel is cut in a diagonal key pattern. The cross is firmly set in a backing of stones, and at its base lies a fragment of a saddle quern. (Cf. *Early Christian Monuments*, pp. 107-9.)

CARVED SLAB.—Within the churchyard, close to the west boundary wall, is a slab of micaceous schist, covering a modern grave, sculptured with a heterogeneous assemblage of objects (Fig. 301.)

It is 5 feet 8½ inches in length, 3½ inches thick, and has an average breadth of 1 foot. Filling the upper dexter corner is a small patera, and the remainder of the top is occupied by a figure holding in the left hand a large sword, the hilt of which he is hammering, the hammer being held with the right hand; beside the hammer, but not connected with it, is an object resembling a short gun. Below the patera is a long-bladed tool with a spade handle, rather like a peat spade, and below this what may be a saw or

perhaps a harrow. Below the figure is an object unidentified and beside this an arrow-head of flint and not metal type. Terminating the upper group of sculptures is a bird, probably an eagle, carved back-down athwart the stone; separating the two groups is a plain panel uncarved, possibly intended for an inscription. The lower group starts with a representation of two conventional trees, but to read these in proper position the stone must be reversed. There is a rectangular object on the dexter side resembling a mason's square. Thereafter follows an interlaced pattern based on a cross saltire, and the group is terminated with a snake (?) arranged like the letter M. Apparently two people are commemorated by this slab, the symbols beginning at either end.



FIG. 305—Front.



FIG. 306—Back.

Fragments of Cross-shaft, Canna (No. 678).

FRAGMENTS OF CROSS-SHAFT.—A section of a cross-shaft (Figs. 305, 306), in this case of sandstone, is preserved within the modern Memorial Church. It is fractured and measures 2 feet in height by 1 foot 2 inches in breadth and 5 inches in thickness. On the front is carved in low relief the lower part of a figure clad in a tunic from waist to knees; the tunic is hemmed and has on one side a triquetra. Legs and feet are bare or tightly clad, and round these a serpent writhes. The back of the slab bears two

panels of interlacing ornament, the lower being serpentine.

Islands of Canna and Sanday (Inverness-shire) lix. 3 July 1925.

679. Cashel (?) Sgor nam Ban-naomha ("Skerry of the Holy Women").—The southern coast of Canna is precipitous and indented, presenting to the sea a bulwark of upper and lower cliffs separated by a steep grassy slope, which rises in most places from a terrace. One of these terraces, situated at a very ex-

and is fairly level; it is strewn with detritus of the upper cliff, which has afforded a convenient building material. The construction consists of an enclosure about 40 yards in diameter formed by a wall of drystone building 5 feet in thickness, the entrance lying on the southern, the seaward side; in the construction of this wall advantage has been taken of rock outcrops and fallen boulders to economise labour, and on this account the shape is irregular, rather ear-shaped than circular.

Within the enclosure (Fig. 307) four structures are built against the outer wall, and there are three others free-standing, while a dense growth of bracken possibly conceals the remains of others. The masonry is built dry throughout.

Without excavation little can be said of the buildings, but two of the structures reared against the outer wall were respectively the well-house and the mill. Within the former a spring rises in a basin of masonry, and there is also an external access to the well, possibly secondary. The water runs southward in a surface channel, then dips below ground to reappear in the bottom of the mill-house, where it is joined by another spring entirely subterranean. The mechanism of the mill probably resembled that of the horizontal mills of Shetland,¹ and the mill-house is similar in type to one on the island of Taransay, Harris (No. 157); in the upper part is an aumbry, a feature found in the north-western structure also.

The largest and most complete of the free-standing buildings stands near the centre of the enclosure; it is two chambered. The larger chamber is some 16 feet in diameter within walls 3 feet in thickness, and is built of larger stones than the other structures.

Of equal dimensions is a single chambered structure next the mill, which is D-shaped on plan; within it is a low circular platform, either building or debris supporting a low rectangular erection containing a number of stone pounders and a fragment of a saddle quern. This is marked on the O.S. map as "Old Altar."²

¹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, XX., p. 257, footnote. ² *Cf. Ibid.*, XXXIII., p. 133.

Islands of Canna and Sanday (Inverness-shire) lix. 4 July 1925.

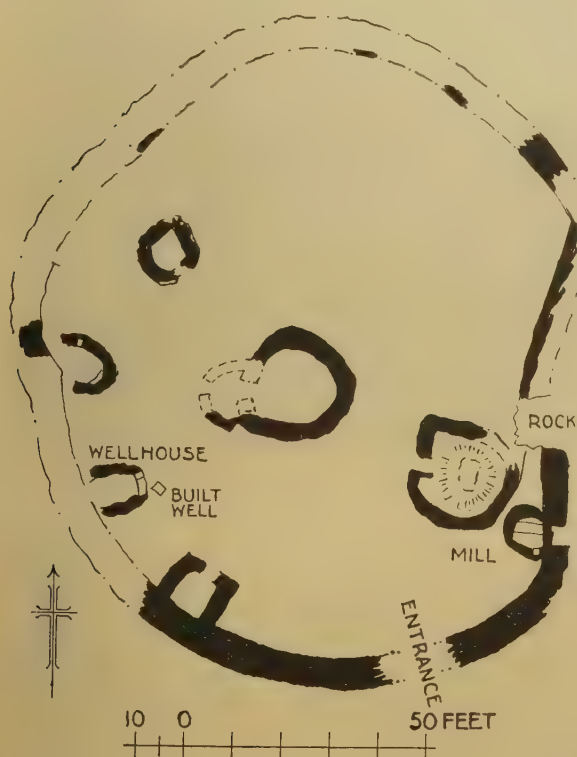


FIG. 307—Cashel (?) Sgor nam Ban-naomha (No. 679).

posed part of the coast about $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles west of the bridge connecting Sanday with Canna, bears the remains of what may be a Cashel or monastic settlement of Celtic type; the place-name of the cliff beneath which it lies is, in English, "the skerry of the holy women," and it is inferred that the establishment was a nunnery. The site is peculiarly remote, basaltic escarpments effectually isolating it from the landward, while access from the sea is only possible in the finest weather. The terrace is covered with turf, is 50 to 70 yards in breadth,

CASTLE.

680. Coroghon Castle.—The Coroghon Mòr is a stack of agglomerate $\frac{1}{4}$ mile north-east of Canna Pier, rising 70 to 80 feet sheer above the sea in three sides and linked to the land by a narrow neck rising 25 feet above the shore. At this neck ascent of the stack has been possible by a narrow and dangerous track, which leads upward to a forework of at least two storeys, roughly rectangular and constructed in stone and lime; the entrance lintel is a stout oak beam. Beside the entrance is a small opening like a gunloop, and there is another, but on an upper storey in the return wall facing south-west. (Figs. 309, 311.)

Cf. *Description of the Isles of Scotland*, c. 1577-95, given in *Celtic Scotland*, Skene, iii., p. 434. The passage describes the "heich craig callit Corignan" as a refuge, but mentions no building; the existing structure is therefore subsequent to the end of the sixteenth century.

Islands of Rum, Sanday, etc. (Inverness-shire) lx (unnoted). 6 July 1925.

SECTION of CAIRN.

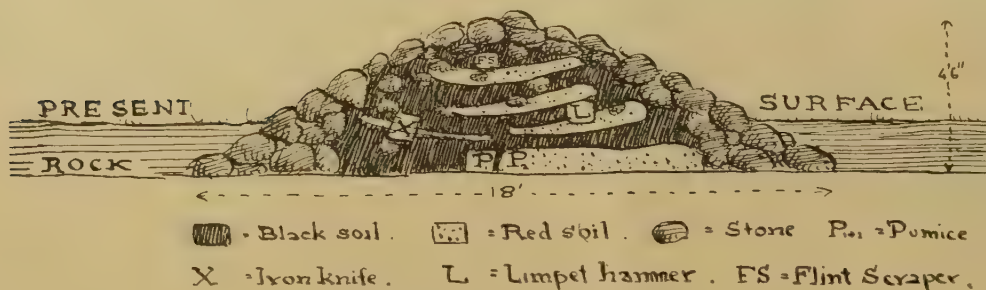


FIG. 308—Cairn Ant-Oban (No. 682).

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTIONS.

DUNS.

681. Dun Channa.—An isolated stack of columnar basalt lying 250 yards south of Garrisdale Point, the most westerly part of Canna, has been utilised as a dun by building a drystone wall, $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, on the edge of the landward side, where access is possible, the stack being connected to the land by a narrow

neck built up of masses of tumbled rock, lying 12 to 15 feet beneath the summit, which can be gained only from a ladder. The entrance to the enclosure is 2 feet 10 inches daylight width and broadens internally to 4 feet 2 inches. On the eastern side of the enclosure are foundations of a house of three compartments, measuring over all 52 feet 8 inches by $30\frac{1}{2}$ feet, the walls being 3 feet thick; on the western side of the enclosure are indefinite foundations of other structures. (Fig. 312.)

Islands of Canna and Sanday (Inverness-shire) lix. 4 July 1925.

CAIRNS AND STANDING STONES.

682. Cairns.—The valley due south of Rudha Langaninnis contains a group of small cairns. The group consists of three cairns in alignment and seemingly linked by a drystone wall. Four cairns similarly associated with a stone wall and two isolated cairns occur at Ant-Oban overlooking Camas Danabhaig. One of the

isolated cairns has been excavated. See *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, LIX., p. 238.

The cairns are roughly oval and vary in length from 10 to 23 feet, and in breadth from 8 to 17 feet, the major axis usually being north-east and south-west.

Island of Canna liii and liv; and Islands of Rum,

Sanday, etc. (Inverness-shire), lx (unnoted). 6 July 1925.

683. Standing Stone, Garrisdale Point.—On the grassy terrace beneath the cliffs, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-east of Garrisdale Point, are foundations of old farm buildings lying on either side of a small burn. Within the remains of an enclosure is a standing stone of basalt 3 feet in height, tapering from 1 foot $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches to 1 foot 1 inch in width, and 7 inches in thickness.



FIG. 309—Coroghon Castle (No. 680).



FIG. 310—Viking Burial, Rudha Langaninnis (No. 686).



FIG. 311—The Coroghon Mòr (No. 680).

Three sides are plain, but on the other face there is, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the top, a circular sinking $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, from which three incised lines, each 6 inches in length, radiate downward.

Islands of Canna and Sanday (Inverness-shire) lix (unnoted). 4 July 1925.

684. Standing Stone, A'Chill.—On a knoll immediately west of the cross (No. 678) is a standing stone of freestone in places highly polished and apparently dressed. It measures just over 6 feet in height, is 11 inches broad and 9 inches thick.

Islands of Canna and Sanday (Inverness-shire) lix. 3 July 1925.

MISCELLANEOUS.

685. Earth-houses.—On the southern slope of Beinn Tighe, just below the summit of a grassy knoll facing south-east, are two small earth-houses, and others probably remain unexposed near by. The two that have been opened have been driven into the hillside, one below the other at a distance of 20 feet apart. In each there is a narrow entrance about 18 inches broad opening in a lintelled space, 5 feet broad in one house, 3 feet in the other, in which are lintelled recesses just large enough for a person to squat in. These earth-houses are smaller and much less intricate than any met with in the outer isles.

Island of Canna (Inverness-shire) liii and liv (unnoted). 6 July 1925.

686. Viking Burials.—On the strip of machair below the cliffs at Rudha Langaninnis is a setting of stones (Fig. 310), which has formed the kerb of a burial cairn of a type hitherto unnoted in these Inventories. One similar occurs in Arran, where excavation exposed, amongst other relics, incinerated bones and boat rivets and a coin of the 9th century, a styca of Wigmund (A.D. 831-854), Archbishop of York. Another burial of this kind was located in Colonsay, and yielded, on being explored, skeletal remains both human and of a horse, boat rivets and clinker nails, weapons and three stycas, the latest issued by Wigmund.¹ The Langaninnis burial has been

despoiled and the kerb only remains, enclosing an area 32 feet from north-west to south-east by $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet from north-east to south-west. The end nearest the sea is slightly rounded, the other end is fairly rectangular, and there may be a small outer chamber beyond it, as in the Arran burial. The kerb is formed of detritus, smallish stones about 18 inches in diameter and height above ground, set fairly close together.

Three other burials of similar type were noted in the adjoining island of Sanday. The first, 200 yards east of Ant-Oban, measures 41 feet by 4 feet within the kerb; the second, lying beneath the north-west base of the knoll Sean Dun and overlooking Ant-Oban, measures 17 feet by $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet; and the third, lying about 100 yards east of the stack Dun Beag, measures 17 feet by 4 feet 4 inches. These graves are unorientated, and their setting is determined by the lie of the ground.

¹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, XLI., 443.

Island of Canna liii and liv; and Islands of Rum, Sanday, etc. (Inverness-shire), lx (unnoted). 4 and 6 July 1925.

RUM.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURE.

687. Church and Churchyard, Kilmory.—On the northern side of the island at the mouth of the Kilmory river are foundations of a township, and the land in the immediate neighbourhood shows signs of former cultivation. The church stands immediately north of the graveyard on rising ground at the foot of a little rocky cliff on the left bank of the river. It is a ruinous drystone structure measuring externally $38\frac{3}{4}$ feet from east to west by $19\frac{1}{4}$ feet. The walls are $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick and are reduced to an average height of 4 feet. The western angles are rounded but the eastern are fairly rectangular. The entrance is in the south wall and is 3 feet 1 inch in width. No other openings are apparent. The churchyard is enclosed by a ruinous wall; it contains a number of plain unwrought head slabs and a shaft of hard sandstone, $4\frac{3}{4}$ feet in height and 9 inches in average width with a thickness of 6 inches, bearing at

the top a small incised Latin cross surmounting a circular panel 8 inches in diameter, defined by two incised lines, which contains a cross with expanding arms set saltire-wise; towards the base of the shaft are two parallel incised lines.

Islands of Rum, Sanday, etc., lx. 2 July 1925.

EIGG.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURE.

688. Kildonnán.—The ruin of St Donnán's Church, a post-Reformation building, stands on the east side of the island at the head of the bay Poll nam Partan. It is a stone and lime building constructed with local rubble and is oblong on plan, measuring 50 feet 11 inches from east to west by 18 feet 3 inches within walls 3 feet 3 inches thick. There is a small rebuilt, lintelled window at the east end of the side walls. The entrance is in the south wall towards the western end.

In the north wall is a tomb recess, merely 5 feet 4 inches in length, with a moulded arch-volt of freestone. In the back of the recess are two freestone panels. The upper bears the date 1641 and initials D R linked by a Y-shaped ligature. The lower panel is armorial. Centred in the upper part is an eagle, flanked on the dexter side by a hand grasping a wheel cross. On the sinister side is a lion rampant. In the lower dexter corner is a galley, and a triple-towered castle fills the sinister corner.

The church is utilised as a burial ground, and some of the modern graves are provided with cover slabs and headstones removed from earlier interments. Of these are the following :—

(a) Figs. 302-3. A cross-shaft of slate 6 feet 1 inch in length, 1 foot 1 inch wide at top and 1 foot 5 inches wide at bottom by $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. The front bears a finely executed debased vine pattern terminating at the foot in opposed winged animals; and on the back is a scrollwork similar in detail, though differing in arrangement, while the terminal animals are not winged.

(b) A fragment of a cross-shaft 2 feet 9 inches in height, 1 foot 4 inches in breadth by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick bears a Greek cross, with widened ends, in a circle 1 foot 2 inches in diameter.

(c) A cross-shaft of slate, very weatherworn and fractured, measures 5 feet 7 inches by 1 foot 8 inches. On the upper surface are traces of scrollwork with animal figures.

(d) A fragment of a cross-shaft of hard free-stone, 1 foot 9 inches by 1 foot 1 inch, bears a panel inscribed with a late key pattern.

John Moydartach, Captain of Clanranald in the second half of the sixteenth century, is said to have erected the church at Kildonnán (*Book of Clanranald in Reliquiæ Celticæ*, ii., p. 171).

Island of Eigg (Inverness-shire) lxxiii. 8 July 1925.

DEFENSIVE CONSTRUCTION.

DUN.

689. Fort, An Sgurr.—The Scur of Eigg, a great wall of pitchstone, almost everywhere columnar, rising to an altitude of 1289 feet above the sea and 400 feet sheer above its base, is possibly the most impressive fort site in Scotland. The sides of the ridges are quite vertical and unscaleable and access is possible only towards the west, where the ridge is divided by a steep carry. The access on the face to the higher level has been barred by building a stout drystone wall 10 feet in thickness across the site, at this point some 250 feet broad. A gap in the wall, 5 feet wide, towards the southern end represents the entrance. The wall is now mainly scree. The enclosure so formed, over 9 acres in area, is $\frac{1}{4}$ mile in length and is rather less than 100 yards in width.

Islands of Eigg and Muck (Inverness-shire) lxxii and lxxiii (unnoted). 8 July 1925.

NOTE.—In a contribution to the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries* on March 11, 1878 (vol. xii., 577-597), mention is made of the following additional monuments :

(1) "Foundations of an island dwelling" in a small loch "lying high up on the shoulder of the Scur of Eigg, known as Lochan na Mna Moire." The island is apparently that in Loch nam Ban Mòra (O.S. 6-inch), the only loch here which has an island; it is inaccessible without a boat.

(2) A cairn, "some five or six hundred yards



FIG. 312—Caisteal an Duin Bhain, Muck (No. 691).



FIG. 313—The Entrance, Dun Channa (No. 681).

To face p. 220.

south from Kildonnan," which provided on excavation the articles in No. 2 of list on p. lvi.

(3) A cairn "a few yards further south" with articles in No. 3.

(4) Cairn, "Sithean or Sguman-nan-Cailleach," containing "two cists . . . made of flat stones set on edge and laid lengthwise." Stones of cairn removed to fill up a drain. Sithean na Cailleich on O.S. 6-inch lxxi.

corners measuring $20\frac{1}{2}$ feet from north-east to south-west by 10 feet from north-west to south-west within drystone walls 5 feet in thickness. The entrance, which is in the south wall, is only 2 feet 1 inch in width.

CROSS-SLAB.—About the middle of the churchyard is a fragment of a slate-slab, 1 foot 8 inches in height by 1 foot 3 inches in breadth, bearing a four-limbed cross set saltire-wise within an incised circle.

Islands of Eigg and Muck (Inverness-shire) lxxii. 7 July 1925.

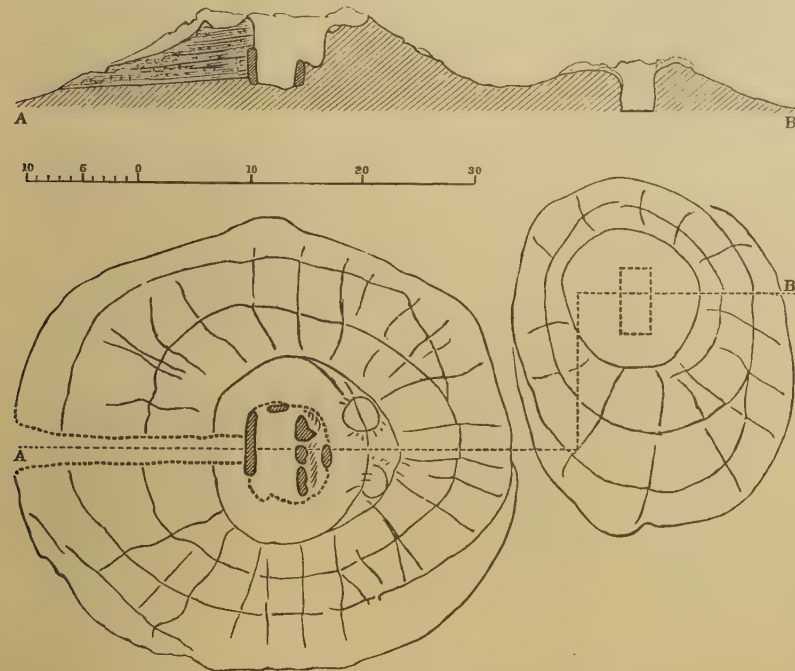


FIG. 314—Cairns (2 and 3) Eigg (No. 689, note).

The O.S. map 6-inch lxxiii. notes a stone cist just north of Kildonnan Old Church ("Ruins of Chapel," cf. *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, as above, pp. 584-6); the site of one stone cist found in 1861, and of another in 1864, in Galmisdale; the sites of two crosses (lxxi., lxxii.) and Tobar Challuim Chille ("Columba's Well") in Cleadale (lxxi).

MUCK.

ECCLESIASTICAL STRUCTURE.

690. Burial Ground, A'Chill.—At the head of the southern harbour, Port Mòr, is a graveyard surrounded by a ruinous wall. The ruin of the chapel abuts on the enclosure; it has been an oblong structure with rounded

the entrance, the wall on either side being 7 and 9 feet thick. Towards the north-north-west are foundations of a house, oblong on plan, 12 feet broad within walls 5 feet in thickness, the length being indeterminate. A hollow at the southern angle may represent another structure. (Fig. 313.)

Island of Muck (Inverness-shire) lxxiv. 7 July 1925.

CAIRNS

692. Cairns.—On the outer end of Ard nan Uan, the north-westerly point of Muck, are two cairns 26 and $18\frac{1}{4}$ feet long and 23 and 18 feet broad. Both are very greatly denuded.

Islands of Eigg and Muck (Inverness-shire) lxxii. (unnoted). 7 July 1925.

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MAP-NO. I.

MAPS

SHOWING THE POSITION OF THE PRINCIPAL MONUMENTS
IN
THE OUTER HEBRIDES, SKYE & THE SMALL ISLES.

N.B.—The Numbers refer to the Article in the Inventory
upon the particular Monument. Brochs include Probable Brochs.

WESTERN
ISLES

ROYAL COMMISSION ON
ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL MONUMENTS
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Scale of 1 inch to One Mile - 855440

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MAP- No. 2.

Scale of 3 inch to One Mile.

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